MARVEL MASTERWORKS®

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

VOLUME 17

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
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NO!! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! YOU CAN'T BE THE GREEN GOBLIN!!
YOU'RE RIGHT, WEBHEAD--HE ISN'T THE GOBLIN! I AM!!
THIS IS IT!! THE CLIMAX OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL SPIDEY SAGA OF ALL!
ANDRU ESPO

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN Nos. 169-180
ANNUAL No. 11 & NOVA No. 12
LEN WEIN & ROSS ANDRU

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PRESENTS

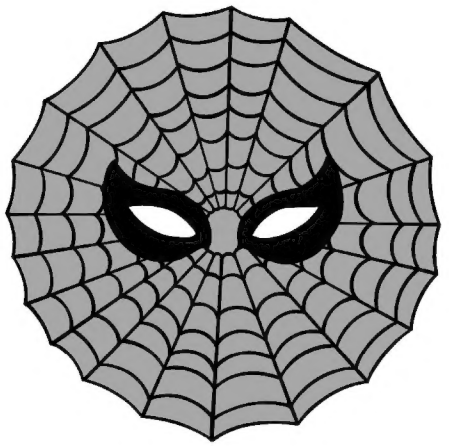
VOLUME 17

COLLECTING

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN NOS. 169-180

ANNUAL NO. 11 & NOVA NO. 12

LEN WEIN • ROSS ANDRU



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CONTENTS

Introduction by Len Wein . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #169, June 1977
"Confrontation" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #170, July 1977
"Madness is All in the Mind!" . . . . . .

Nova #12, August 1977
"Who Is--The Man Called Photon?" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #171, August 1977
"Photon is Another Name for...?" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man Annual #11, 1977
"Spawn of the Spider" . . . . . .
"Chaos at the Coffee Bean!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #172, September 1977
"The Fiend from the Fire!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #173, October 1977
"If You Can't Stand the Heat...!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #174, November 1977
"The Hitman's Back in Town!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #175, December 1977
"Big Apple Battleground!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #176, January 1978
"He Who Laughs Last...!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #177, February 1978
"Goblin in the Middle" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #178, March 1978
"Green Grows the Goblin!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #179, April 1978
"The Goblin's Always Greener!" . . . . . .

The Amazing Spider-Man #180, May 1978
"Who Was That Goblin I Saw You With?" . . . . . .

INTRODUCTION
BY LEN WEIN

Y'know, looking back through the literally dozens of talented writers who have handled the adventures of our Friendly Neighborhood Wallcrawler over the past four decades, it's kind of hard to imagine that, when I was offered the opportunity to become the regular writer of *The Amazing Spider-Man* way back in 1975, I was only (for all intents and purposes at the time) the third person to write what was, and remains, the flagship book of the Marvel Universe.

Now, granted, I'd already spent the bulk of the previous year writing a book called *Marvel Team-Up*, which usually co-starred Spidey with one or more of Marvel's lesser lights (and, let's face it, then as now, who wasn't?), so I had some sort of practice in writing the character. But, still, *The Amazing Spider-Man*?

For the first hundred-plus issues, the book was written by Stan "The Man" Lee himself. The next 30/40 issues were handled by my then-roommate Gerry Conway, co-creator of the Punisher, not to mention DC's *Firestorm, the Nuclear Man*, and much of the supporting cast of the CW TV's current hits, *The Flash* and *Arrow*. Not exactly a slouch in the writing department himself.

Gerry decided to leave the premier Spidey title for reasons I honestly can no longer remember, and thus, when I next visited the Marvel offices to deliver whatever script I was working on at the time, then-Editor-in-Chief Roy Thomas took me into his office to talk to me.

After a few minutes of casual chitchat, Roy's face became quite somber.

"I need to talk to you about something serious," he said.

Well, this is it, I thought. *They've finally figured out I'm a huge fraud who can't really write my way out of a soggy paper bag, and now Roy's going to fire me.*

"Wh-what's up?" I stammered, desperately trying (and failing) to maintain my cool.

"Well, I don't know if Gerry's already told you this, since I know you guys are apartment-mates," Roy said, "but he's planning to give up writing the Spider-Man book with issue #149."

"No," I replied, finally catching my breath. "I hadn't heard."

"So, anyway," said Roy, continuing as if he hadn't even noticed my momentary nervousness, "I've got Archie Goodwin writing a fill-in for issue #150, but I was wondering if you'd be interested in taking over the book as regular writer with issue #151?"

And there went my breath again.

I stood there, silent, unmoving, for what seemed like the proverbial eternity, considering what had just been offered me.

Finally, Roy broke the silence. "Well," he said, "You interested?"

"You sure about this?" I asked.

"What do you mean?" replied Roy, clearly confused by my reticence.

"Well, I mean, we are talking Spider-Man here," I said. "You know, the number one Marvel title, the company's flagship book? Are you sure I'm ready for this?"

"As ready as anyone else," said Roy. "Besides, you have been writing *Marvel Team-Up* for the last year and a half, so it's not like you don't have a handle on how to approach the character. So, yes or no? Are you in?"

This time I didn't hesitate.

"I'm in with both feet," I answered, offering Roy my hand. "I just hope you don't come to regret it."

"If I do, I'll just fire you," said Roy, smiling impishly. "That's one of the perks of being Editor-in-Chief."

* * *

Having accepted the assignment, daunting though it might be, the next step was to sit down and figure out what the heck to do with it.

Well, one of the best things about the book was its incredible supporting cast. From blossoming love interest Mary Jane Watson to bombastic perpetual adversary J. Jonah Jameson to roommate and sometimes sidekick Harry Osborn to perpetually-at-death's-door Aunt May and beyond, there was an amazing amount of potential to be mined here and I set about digging in.

I decided the first thing I needed to do was to absolutely wrap up the bizarre clone storyline with which Gerry had ended his run on the book. To make certain Peter's clone could never come back again, I had Spidey dump the dead body down the chimney of a local incinerating plant to be reduced to ash, despite the fact his Spider-Sense went off during the process, making him suspect someone was watching him.

And that, I figured, was the end of that. Little did I suspect that, decades later, the clone would return with a storyline that ultimately reduced all the various Spider-Man titles to complete and utter chaos. (Though that, fortunately, is a tale for some other time).

Anyway, the first thing I did in terms of story advancement was to return Harry Obsorn to the book. Harry had been Peter's best friend until the death of his father, Norman Osborn (also long since resurrected; hey, anyone starting to notice a pattern here?). His dad's death had utterly unhinged Harry and he assumed his father's alter ego, becoming the second Green Goblin, one of Spidey's greatest foes. Harry's defeat at the wallcrawler's hands had left Harry pretty much comatose, and he's been committed to a local mental institution.

Harry returned a little the worse for wear: a little shy, a little hesitant, a whole lot not quite there. Over the course of my run on the book, I slowly brought him back to himself, introducing him to his eventual love interest, Liz Allen, and, most importantly, leading to the return of the new Green Goblin, in a storyline that covered the last six issues of my tenure on Spidey, one of the longest Goblin stories ever.

When it came to dealing with Mary Jane Watson, I was already ahead of the game. As one of the most fully formed characters in comics (a phrase that applies in so many ways), all I had to do, essentially, was maintain the proverbial status quo, putting her and Peter's relationship through the usual ups and downs, to see where it might eventually lead me.

Gerry had actually done most of the evolution of Peter's high school tormentor, Flash Thompson. Having returned from his stint in the Vietnam War, Flash had taken strides toward becoming more mature. He'd decided to take his college career seriously, and I loved the idea of playing with the new Flash and his new relationship with Peter.

As for Peter's Aunt May, I decided to change very little. She remained staunch and stalwart in her love and devotion to Peter and, of course, the fact that she always seemed to be about a quarter of an inch this side of death added to her value to the book.

Then, of course, came my second favorite character in the Spider-Man mythos, good ol' J. Jonah Jameson himself, editor-in-chief and publisher of New York's fictional newspaper *The Daily Bugle*, as well as Peter's perpetually pestering employer. At his best, Jonah was funny, frightening, frustrating, and an absolute joy to write. I moved him front and center in the book, using him as much and as often as I could. I even decided to evolve Jonah's personal life, introducing him to Dr. Marla Madison (named, in part, for an old friend of mine). As Marla and Jonah came to know each other better after the latest Spider-Slayer disaster, they, to everyone's surprise, including mine, got engaged and eventually married.

But of all the characters I played with during my run on Spidey, there is one in particular that bears special mention, and that's New York City herself. One of the most vibrant cities in the world, this 24-hour town boasts an extraordinary number of great locations that made perfect arenas for many of Spider-Man's battles. And I didn't hesitate to use them. The great neon billboards that illuminate Times Square, the Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink with its huge statue of Prometheus, the 59th Street Overhead Tramway, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and, my personal favorite, the Radio City Music Hall, an entertainment facility so huge that you could actually stage an aerial battle *inside* its vast auditorium. Which, of course, I did, pitting Spidey against the new Goblin there in a battle to the death.

Then, of course, there were the villains. Spider-Man, then as now, boasts one of the most spectacular rogues' galleries in the history of comics; the Shocker, the Sandman, the Terrible Tinkerer (who I brought back after his one and only appearance in the back-up story in *ASM* #2, simply for the purpose of proving he was *not* an alien as it had previously seemed. I long felt, and still feel, that aliens have no place in the life of a ground-level character such as Spidey. As for Venom, go figure) the Punisher, the Kingpin (long since appropriated to become Daredevil's archenemy), the Lizard (accompanied by my own creation, Stegron the Dinosaur Man, who'd first appeared in the pages of *Marvel Team-Up*), Doctor Faustus, the Molten Man, I used them all, even as I added a few of my own baddies to the bunch. Some of them, of course, turned out better than others. You can draw your own conclusions about the long-lasting value of such twisted characters as the Mirage, the Rocket Racer, the Will-O'-The-Wisp (originally created by me back in my old fanzine days), the aforementioned Stegron the Dinosaur Man and the murderous computer known as W.H.O. Some definitely worked better than others, but all were fun to write.

The biggest problem I had to overcome was the fate of the webslinger's other archenemy, Otto Octavius, more affectionately known as Doctor Octopus. The last time we'd seen Doc Ock was in a story by Gerry, which culminated with the not-so-good Doctor being consumed by a nuclear explosion triggered by another Spidey foe named Hammerhead, on an island off the New York coast. Yeah, you heard me right, an island off the New York City coast. You got a problem with that, talk to Gerry. He wrote it; I didn't.

Anyway, most people standing at Ground Zero of a nuclear bomb blast would pretty much be a whole lot less than toast, but Ock was just too good a villain to stay dead. All I had to do was find a way to resurrect him. Now, since I'm the guy who coined the famous saying, "In comics, nobody is ever really dead unless you can see the body…and, usually, not even then," it fell to me to figure out an acceptable solution. It took me several days, but I finally came up with one. How well it worked, I leave up to those of you who read the previous *Masterworks* volume to decide.

Okay, having gone through my reminiscences as best I can remember them these 40 years since, it suddenly dawns on me that I've forgotten to discuss the most important part of my run on *Amazing Spider-Man*, and the reason, I believe, for most of its success; the book's inimitable illustrator, the all-too-often-underrated Ross Andru.

Ross was an utterly brilliant penciler, who believed himself to be an adequate artist at best. He could not have possibly been more wrong. He had an attention to detail that has rarely been matched by the talented artists who've come after him. He was a quiet, soft-spoken man, who was taken from us far too soon. I miss him to this day.

One of my favorite anecdotes about Ross's unflinching attention to detail takes me back to my very first story in *Amazing Spider-Man*. It was the two-part Shocker story that culminated in a battle at the 59th Street Power Plant that was located on a small island in the middle of the East River.

In order to make certain he got every detail of the power plant correct, he had his darling wife drive him to the middle of the 59th Street Bridge, which overlooked the power plant. Standing there, armed only with sketch pad and camera, Ross stood there working, in the middle of the night, until he'd gotten it all down just the way he wanted it. His wife, meanwhile, just kept circling the bridge in the family car. Every time she passed Ross, she'd slow down to pick him up. "Not quite ready, hon," Ross would say. "You'd better go around again."

I absolutely love that story, since it speaks to Ross's love and extraordinary commitment to his work. He was such a master of his craft that, when DC Comics and Marvel decided to collaborate on the first Superman/Spider-Man crossover in the '70s, it went without saying that Ross would be chosen to illustrate it. The bulk of Ross's career consisted of lengthy runs on such diverse titles as *Wonder Woman, The Metal Men*, and *The Amazing Spider*-Man. That is one hell of a legacy to leave behind.

There are probably a million stories I've forgotten about my run on the book as I sit here staring at my keyboard and my looming deadline. Maybe I'll get a chance to tell you some of them next time we meet. Suffice it to say that writing and editing *The Amazing Spider-Man* was one of the greatest challenges and greatest joys of a now-almost 50-year career. Much of my early work is, these days, contained in various hardcover and paperback collections and, thus, to my astonishment, still easily available to be read. Every so often, I sit down and reread these old stories. Most of the time, I flinch at the stilted dialogue, knowing how much I've grown as a writer since then. I reread through my run of Spidey stories in preparation for writing this intro and was astonished by how much I still liked the work and how little I would change.

So sit back, make yourself comfortable, sip your favorite beverage of choice, and read through these stories, knowing a little bit about where they came from and why, and then let me know what you think of them.

Some things, it seems, really do stand the test of time.

Len Wein
Northridge, CA
May 15, 2015

SPIDER-MAN
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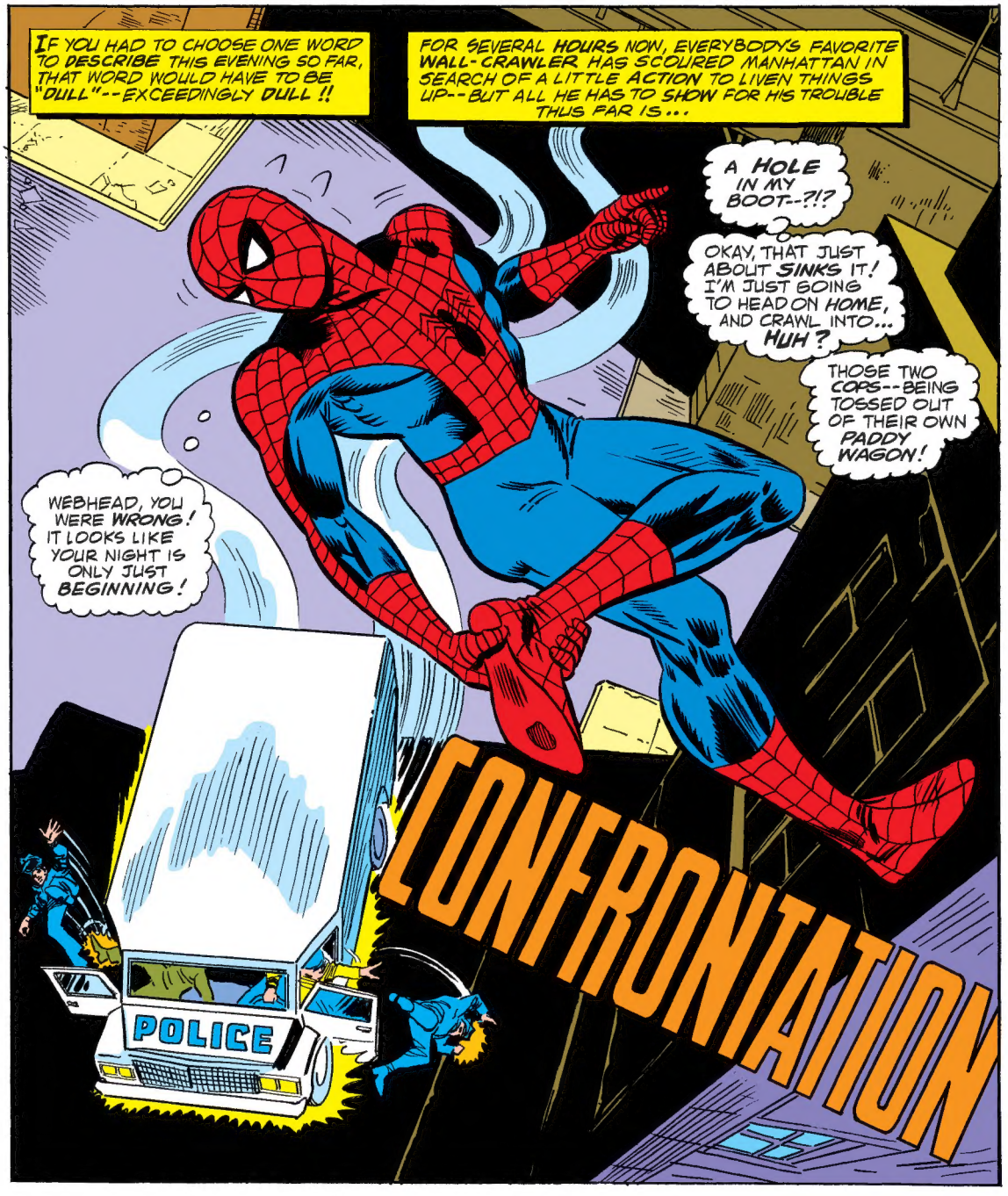
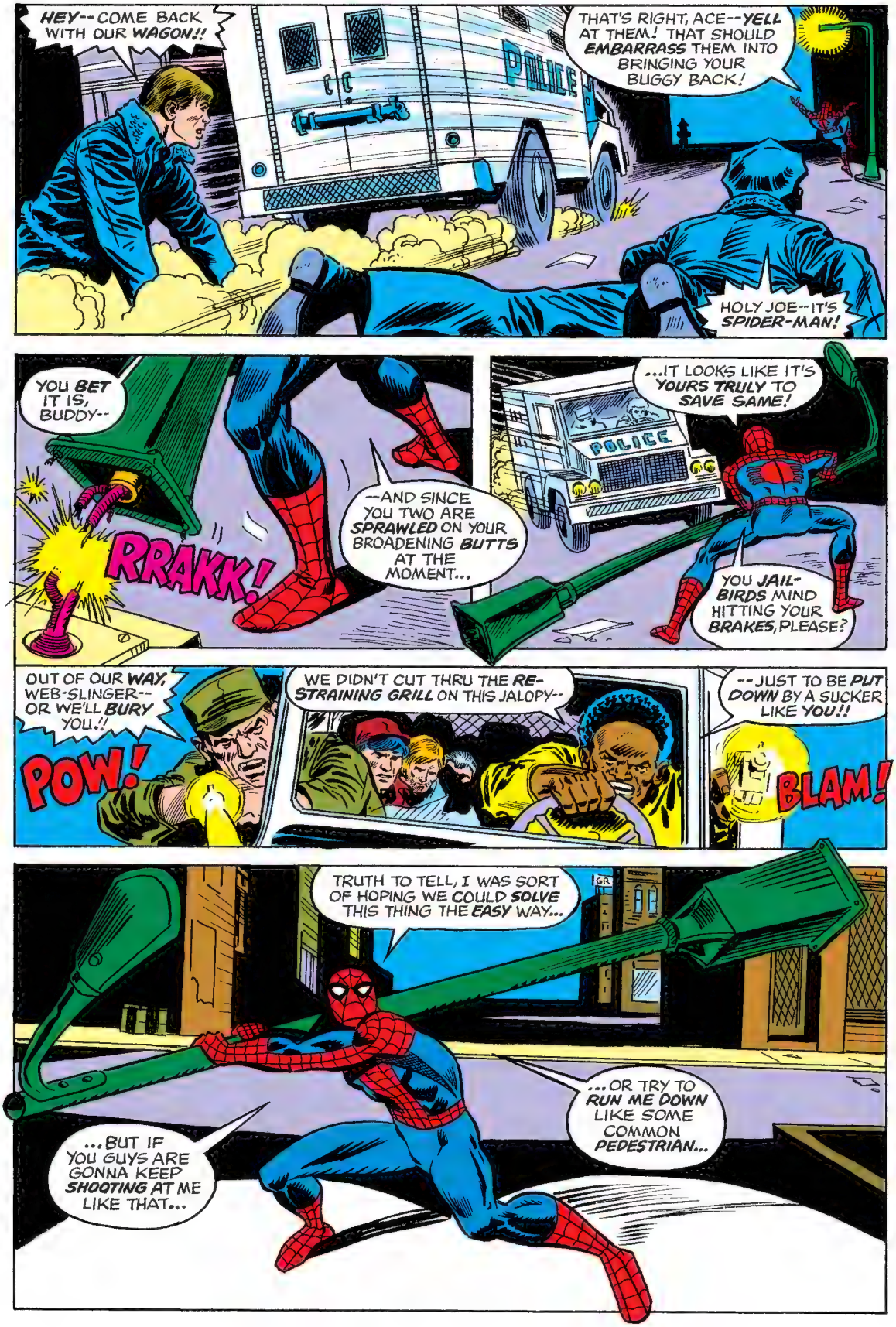
PETER PARKER, I KNOW YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN--
--AND I HAVE THE PHOTOS TO PROVE IT!
HOW DO THESE PICTURES REVEAL SPIDEY'S SECRET IDENTITY? YOU'LL NEVER KNOW, UNLESS YOU READ..
CONFRONTATION!

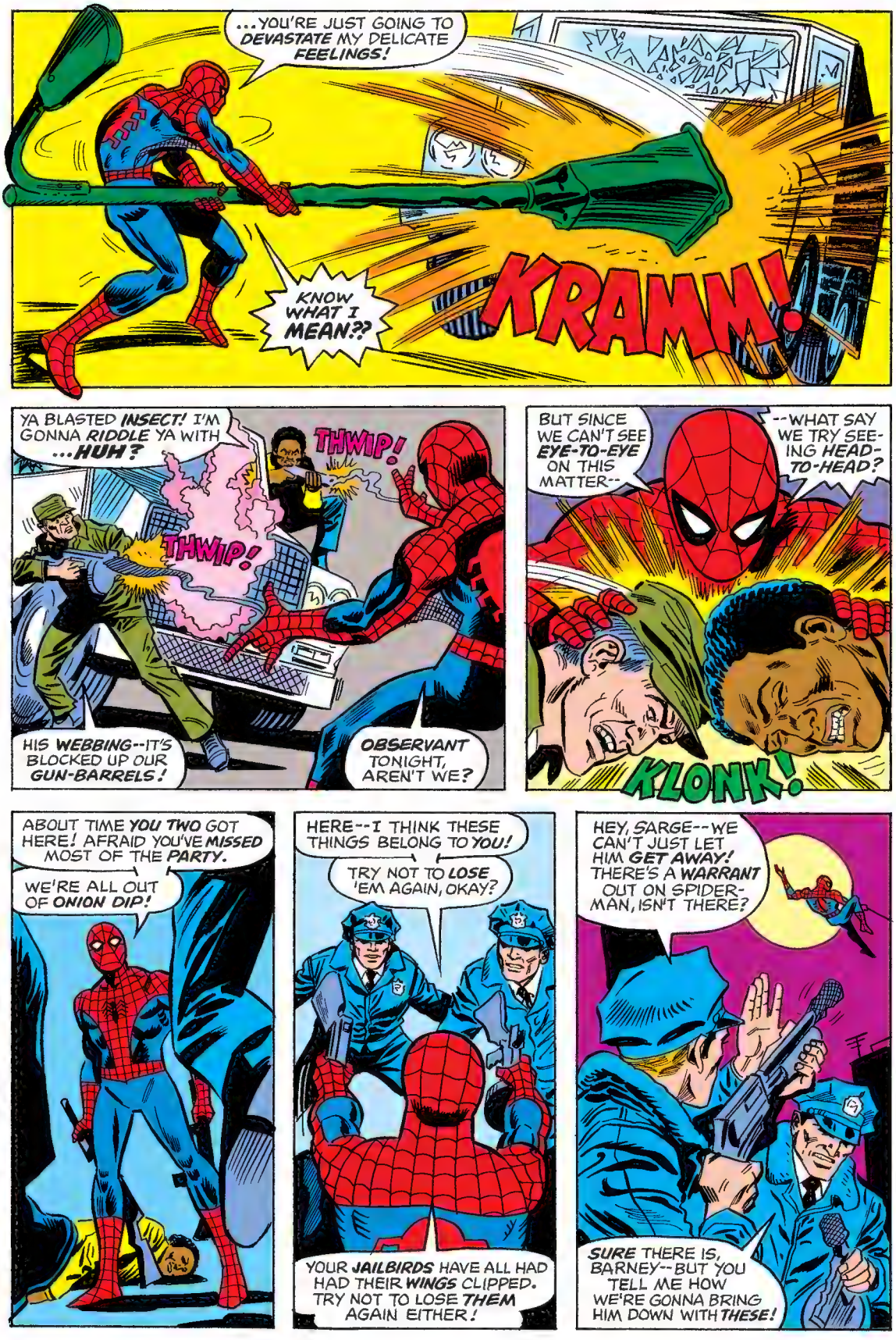
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

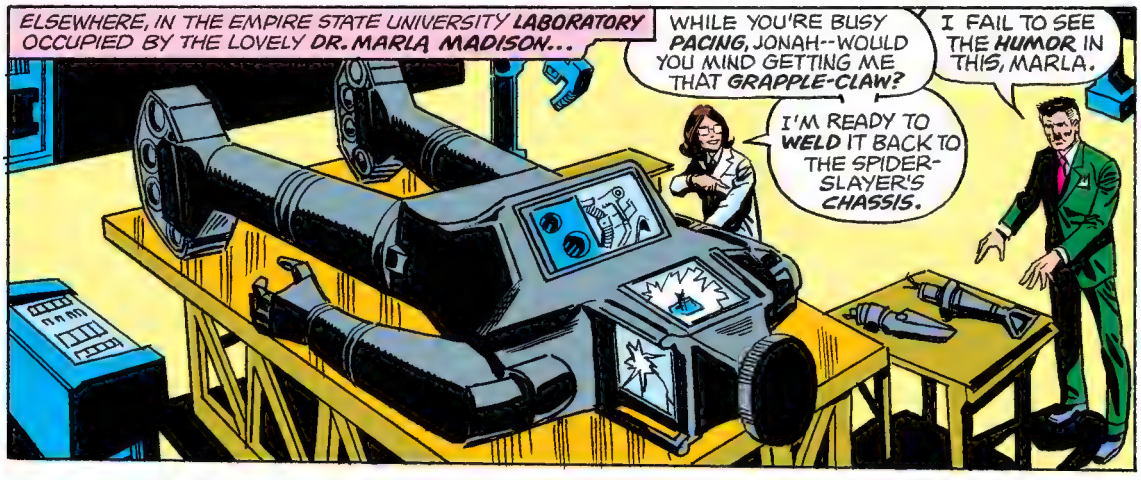
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

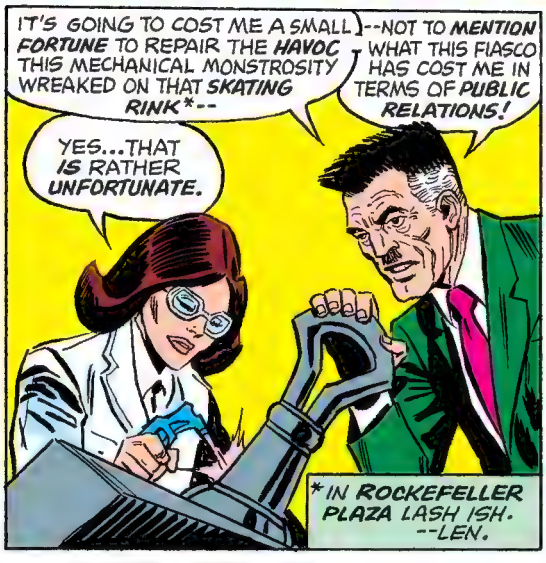
LEN WEIN, WRITER/EDITOR | ROSS ANDRU, ILLUSTRATOR | MIKE ESPOSITO, EMBELLISHER | GLYNIS WEIN, COLORIST | IRV WATANABE, LETTERER

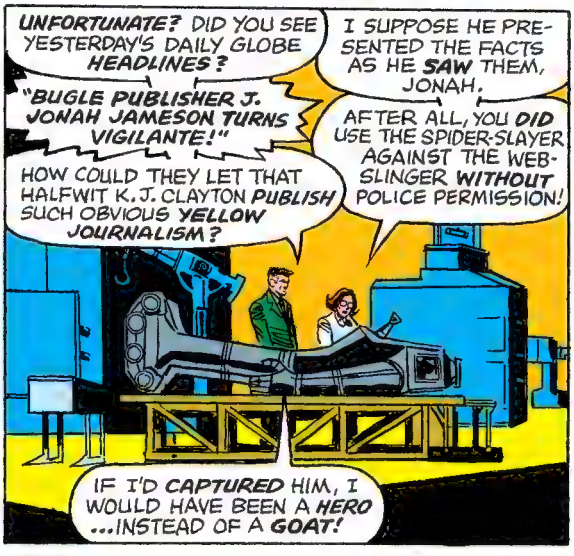

IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE ONE WORD TO DESCRIBE THIS EVENING SO FAR, THAT WORD WOULD HAVE TO BE "DULL"--EXCEEDINGLY DULL !!
FOR SEVERAL HOURS NOW, EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE WALL-CRAWLER HAS SCOURED MANHATTAN IN SEARCH OF A LITTLE ACTION TO LIVEN THINGS UP--BUT ALL HE HAS TO SHOW FOR HIS TROUBLE THUS FAR IS...
A HOLE IN MY BOOT--?!?
OKAY, THAT JUST ABOUT SINKS IT! I'M JUST GOING TO HEAD ON HOME, AND CRAWL INTO... HUH?
THOSE TWO COPS--BEING TOSSED OUT OF THEIR OWN PADDY WAGON!
WEBHEAD, YOU WERE WRONG! IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR NIGHT IS ONLY JUST BEGINNING!
POLICE
CONFRONTATION


HEY--COME BACK WITH OUR WAGON!!
POLICE
THAT'S RIGHT, ACE--YELL AT THEM! THAT SHOULD EMBARRASS THEM INTO BRINGING YOUR BUGGY BACK!
HOLY JOE--IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
YOU BET IT IS, BUDDY--
RRAKK!
--AND SINCE YOU TWO ARE SPRAWLED ON YOUR BROADENING BUTTS AT THE MOMENT...
...IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S YOURS TRULY TO SAVE SAME!
POLICE
YOU JAIL-BIRDS MIND HITTING YOUR BRAKES, PLEASE?
OUT OF OUR WAY, WEB-SLINGER--OR WE'LL BURY YOU!!
POW!
WE DIDN'T CUT THRU THE RE-STRAINING GRILL ON THIS JALOPY--
--JUST TO BE PUT DOWN BY A SUCKER LIKE YOU!!
BLAM!
TRUTH TO TELL, I WAS SORT OF HOPING WE COULD SOLVE THIS THING THE EASY WAY...
...OR TRY TO RUN ME DOWN LIKE SOME COMMON PEDESTRIAN...
...BUT IF YOU GUYS ARE GONNA KEEP SHOOTING AT ME LIKE THAT...


...YOU'RE JUST GOING TO DEVASTATE MY DELICATE FEELINGS!
KNOW WHAT I MEAN??
KRAMM!
YA BLASTED INSECT! I'M GONNA RIDDLE YA WITH ...HUH?
THWIP!
THWIP!
HIS WEBBING--IT'S BLOCKED UP OUR GUN-BARRELS!
OBSERVANT TONIGHT, AREN'T WE?
BUT SINCE WE CAN'T SEE EYE-TO-EYE ON THIS MATTER--
--WHAT SAY WE TRY SEEING HEAD-TO-HEAD?
KLONK!
ABOUT TIME YOU TWO GOT HERE! AFRAID YOU'VE MISSED MOST OF THE PARTY.
WE'RE ALL OUT OF ONION DIP!
HERE--I THINK THESE THINGS BELONG TO YOU!
TRY NOT TO LOSE 'EM AGAIN, OKAY?
YOUR JAILBIRDS HAVE ALL HAD HAD THEIR WINGS CLIPPED. TRY NOT TO LOSE THEM AGAIN EITHER!
HEY, SARGE--WE CAN'T JUST LET HIM GET AWAY! THERE'S A WARRANT OUT ON SPIDER-MAN, ISN'T THERE?
SURE THERE IS, BARNEY--BUT YOU TELL ME HOW WE'RE GONNA BRING HIM DOWN WITH THESE!

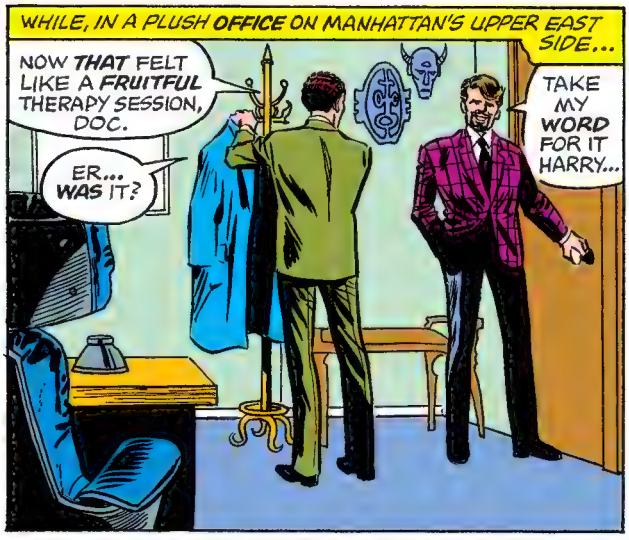

ELSEWHERE, IN THE EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY LABORATORY OCCUPIED BY THE LOVELY DR. MARLA MADISON...
WHILE YOU'RE BUSY PACING, JONAH--WOULD YOU MIND GETTING ME THAT GRAPPLE-CLAW?
I'M READY TO WELD IT BACK TO THE SPIDER-SLAYER'S CHASSIS.
I FAIL TO SEE THE HUMOR IN THIS, MARLA.


IT'S GOING TO COST ME A SMALL FORTUNE TO REPAIR THE HAVOC THIS MECHANICAL MONSTROSITY WREAKED ON THAT SKATING RINK*--
--NOT TO MENTION WHAT THIS FIASCO HAS COST ME IN TERMS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS!
YES...THAT IS RATHER UNFORTUNATE.
*IN ROCKEFELLER PLAZA LASH ISH. --LEN.

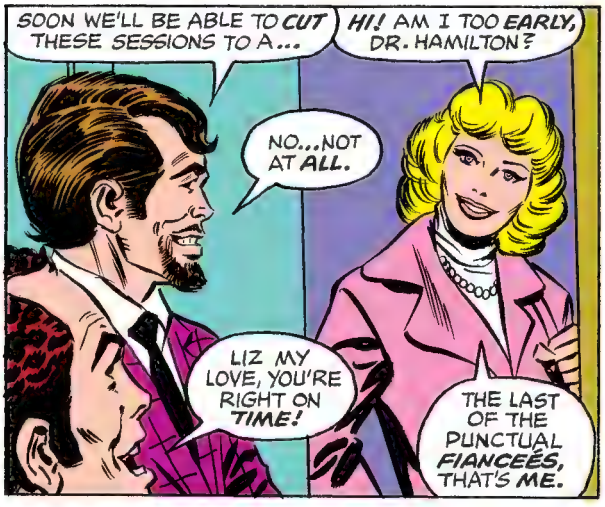

UNFORTUNATE? DID YOU SEE YESTERDAY'S DAILY GLOBE HEADLINES?
I SUPPOSE HE PRESENTED THE FACTS AS HE SAW THEM, JONAH.
"BUGLE PUBLISHER J. JONAH JAMESON TURNS VIGILANTE!"
AFTER ALL, YOU DID USE THE SPIDER-SLAYER AGAINST THE WEB-SLINGER WITHOUT POLICE PERMISSION!
HOW COULD THEY LET THAT HALFWIT K. J. CLAYTON PUBLISH SUCH OBVIOUS YELLOW JOURNALISM?
IF I'D CAPTURED HIM, I WOULD HAVE BEEN A HERO ...INSTEAD OF A GOAT!

PERHAPS YOU CAN STILL CAPTURE HIM, JONAH. THE SPIDER-SLAYER SHOULD BE COMPLETELY REPAIRED IN A FEW DAYS, AND THEN...
NO, WE'VE ALREADY TRIED THAT METHOD--AND WE BLEW IT! THERE HAS TO BE SOME ALTERNATIVE...
...AND I KNOW PRECISELY WHAT IT IS!

I'VE BEEN KEEPING SOMETHING LOCKED IN MY OFFICE DESK--AN EXTRA LITTLE ACE-IN-THE-HOLE--AND MAYBE NOW IS THE TIME TO USE IT!
IF YOU WISH.
WILL I SEE YOU LATER, MARLA?
AND, JONAH...WHATEVER YOU'RE PLANNING TO DO...GOOD LUCK.


WHILE, IN A PLUSH OFFICE ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER EAST SIDE...
NOW THAT FELT LIKE A FRUITFUL THERAPY SESSION, DOC.
ER... WAS IT?
TAKE MY WORD FOR IT HARRY...

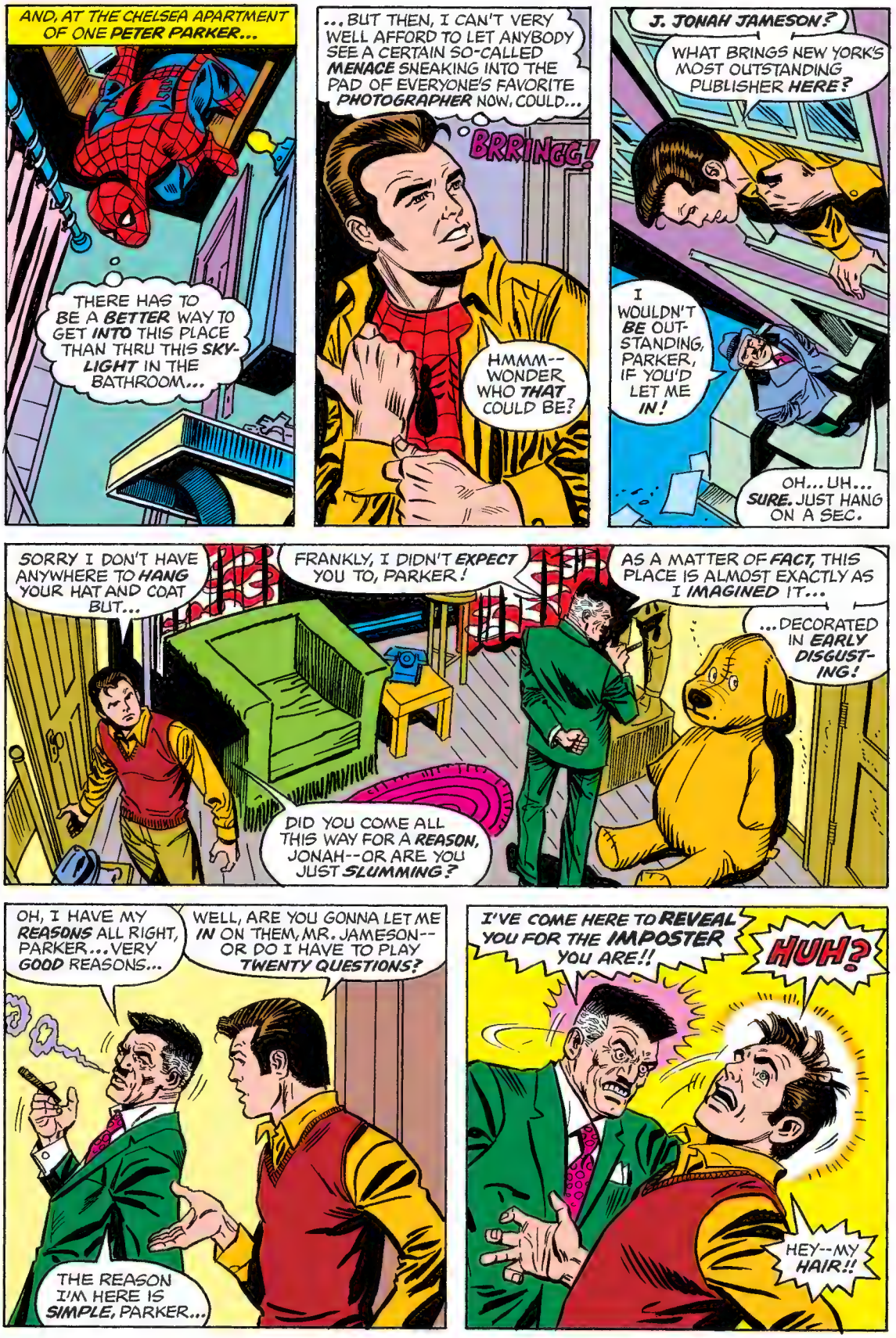
...THEY'RE ALL FRUITFUL SESSIONS! YOU'VE COME QUITE A LONG WAY SINCE WE FIRST BEGAN YOUR THERAPY!
I'LL SAY WE HAVE, DOC.
I FEEL LIKE A NEW MAN THESE DAYS!
AND YOU SOUND LIKE ONE TOO, MR. OSBORN.


SOON WE'LL BE ABLE TO CUT THESE SESSIONS TO A...
HI! AM I TOO EARLY, DR. HAMILTON?
NO...NOT AT ALL.
LIZ MY LOVE, YOU'RE RIGHT ON TIME!
THE LAST OF THE PUNCTUAL FIANCEES, THAT'S ME.

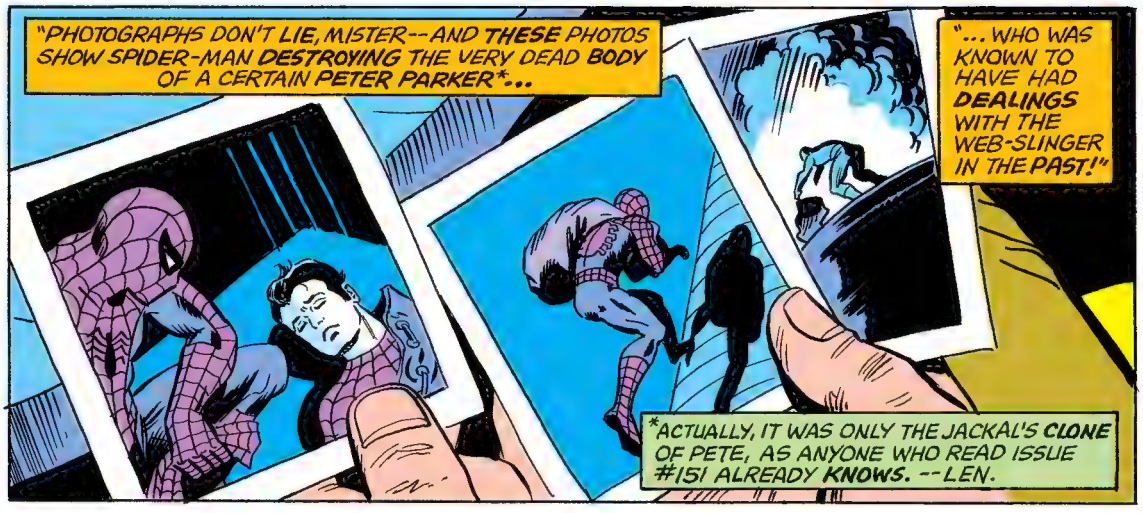
WELL, I DON'T WANT TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR CHARMING MISS ALLEN FROM ANYTHING IMPORTANT, HARRY.
YOU AND ME BOTH, DOC.
IF YOU CALL A LATE DINNER IMPORTANT, THAT IS.

SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT SESSION THEN, HARRY?
YOU BET! WOULDN'T MISS IT FOR THE WORLD.
IT'S BEEN NICE MEETING YOU AGAIN, DR. HAMILTON.
PLEASE... CALL ME BART.
GOOD NIGHT THEN... BART.

NOW THERE GOES ONE LOVELY COUPLE. IT SEEMS A WOMAN LIKE LIZ WAS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED FOR HARRY OSBORN.
MRS. HASTINGS, YOU CAN SEND IN THE NEXT PATIENT NOW.
CLIK!


AND, AT THE CHELSEA APARTMENT OF ONE PETER PARKER...
THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY TO GET INTO THIS PLACE THAN THRU THIS SKY-LIGHT IN THE BATHROOM...
...BUT THEN, I CAN'T VERY WELL AFFORD TO LET ANYBODY SEE A CERTAIN SO-CALLED MENACE SNEAKING INTO THE PAD OF EVERYONE'S FAVORITE PHOTOGRAPHER NOW, COULD...
BRRINGG!
HMMM--WONDER WHO THAT COULD BE?
J. JONAH JAMESON?
WHAT BRINGS NEW YORK'S MOST OUTSTANDING PUBLISHER HERE?
I WOULDN'T BE OUT-STANDING, PARKER, IF YOU'D LET ME IN!
OH... UH... SURE. JUST HANG ON A SEC.
SORRY I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO HANG YOUR HAT AND COAT BUT...
FRANKLY, I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO, PARKER!
AS A MATTER OF FACT, THIS PLACE IS ALMOST EXACTLY AS I IMAGINED IT...
...DECORATED IN EARLY DISGUST-ING!
DID YOU COME ALL THIS WAY FOR A REASON, JONAH--OR ARE YOU JUST SLUMMING?
OH, I HAVE MY REASONS ALL RIGHT, PARKER...VERY GOOD REASONS...
WELL, ARE YOU GONNA LET ME IN ON THEM, MR. JAMESON--OR DO I HAVE TO PLAY TWENTY QUESTIONS?
THE REASON I'M HERE IS SIMPLE, PARKER...
I'VE COME HERE TO REVEAL YOU FOR THE IMPOSTER YOU ARE!!
HUH?
HEY--MY HAIR!!

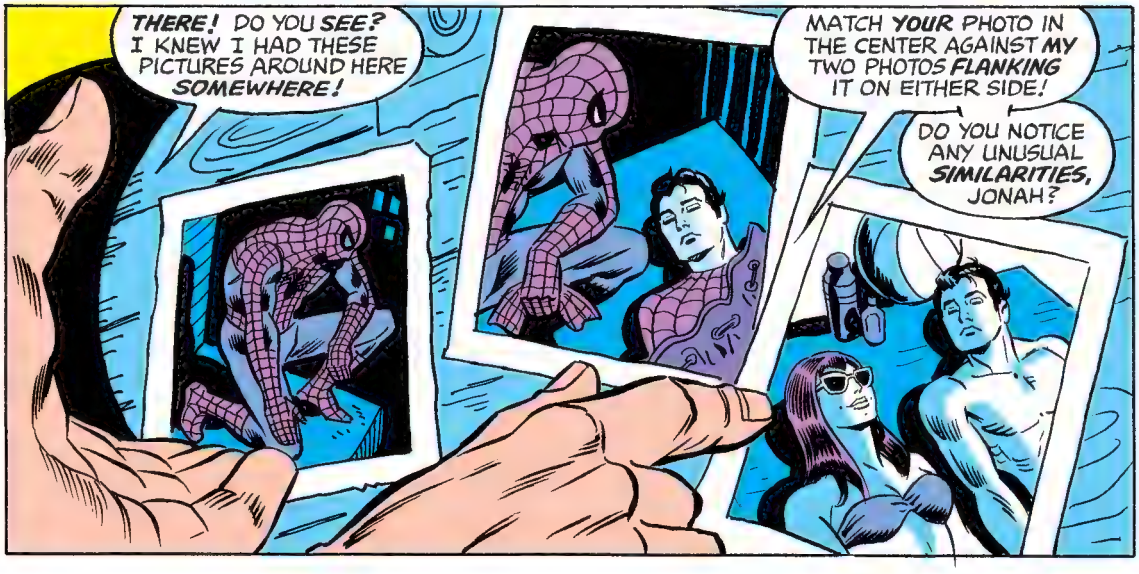
J-JONAH, HAVE YOU C-COMPLETELY FLIPPED YOUR FLATTOP?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU T-TRYING TO DO TO ME??
JUST TRYING TO FIND THE LINE WHERE THE MASK JOINS YOUR NECK, SO I CAN PROVE THAT YOU'RE...
HEY, Y-YOU'RE... NOT...WEARING ...A...MASK.
OF COURSE I'M NOT! WHAT EVER GAVE YOU THE IDEA THAT I WAS?
AND KINDLY TAKE YOUR CLAMMY HANDS OFF OF ME!
DON'T GET ROUGH WITH ME, MISTER!
ROUGH? JAMESON, IF YOU WEREN'T ALREADY HALFWAY OVER THE HILL, I'D...
YOU'LL DO NOTHING, PUNK--NOT SO LONG AS I HAVE THIS!
I'D BEEN HOLDING THIS ENVELOPE TO USE ITS CONTENTS AS EVIDENCE AGAINST YOU ONCE I CAPTURED YOU--
--BUT AFTER THE WAY YOU HUMILIATED ME WHEN I TRIED, I'M NOT SITTING ON THIS ANY LONGER!
YOU'D BETTER TAKE A GOOD LOOK INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE... SPIDER-MAN!
WELL, I'VE BEEN EXPECTING THIS!* GOT TO PLAY MY PART EXACTLY AS I PLANNED IT!
S-S-SPIDER-MAN? I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IN BLAZES YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, JONAH!
DON'T YOU, PUNK? YOU JUST STUDY THOSE PHOTOS --AND THEN TRY TELLING ME THAT AGAIN!
*SINCE LAST ISH, RIGHT? --LEN.


"PHOTOGRAPHS DON'T LIE, MISTER--AND THESE PHOTOS SHOW SPIDER-MAN DESTROYING THE VERY DEAD BODY OF A CERTAIN PETER PARKER*...
"...WHO WAS KNOWN TO HAVE HAD DEALINGS WITH THE WEB-SLINGER IN THE PAST!"
*ACTUALLY, IT WAS ONLY THE JACKAL'S CLONE OF PETE, AS ANYONE WHO READ ISSUE #151 ALREADY KNOWS. --LEN.

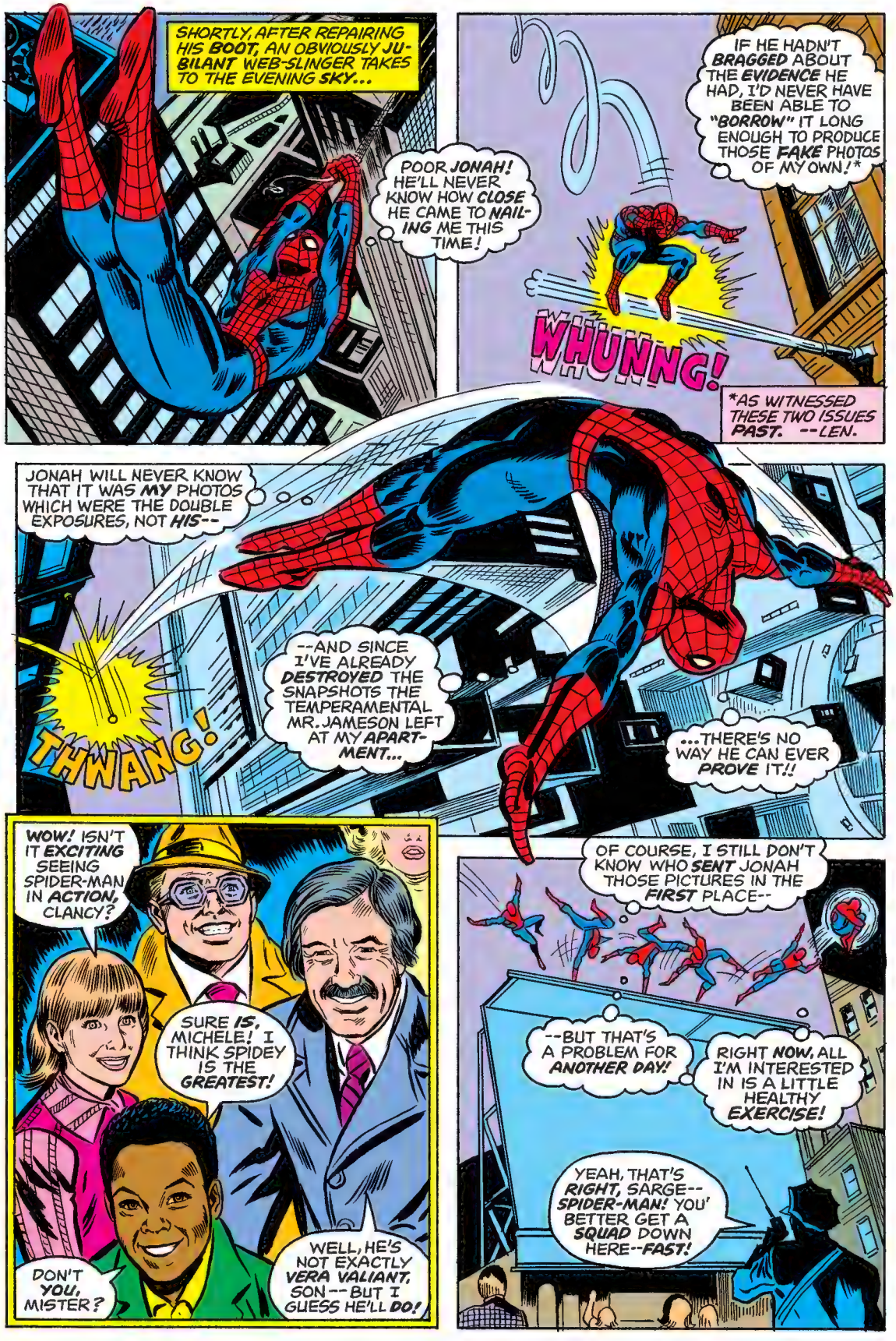
NOW I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU DECIDED TO IMPERSONATE PARKER --AND FRANKLY, I DON'T WANT TO! I JUST...
MR. JAMESON, THERE HAS TO BE SOME EXPLANATION FOR THIS!
OH?
NOW THAT I'D LIKE TO HEAR!

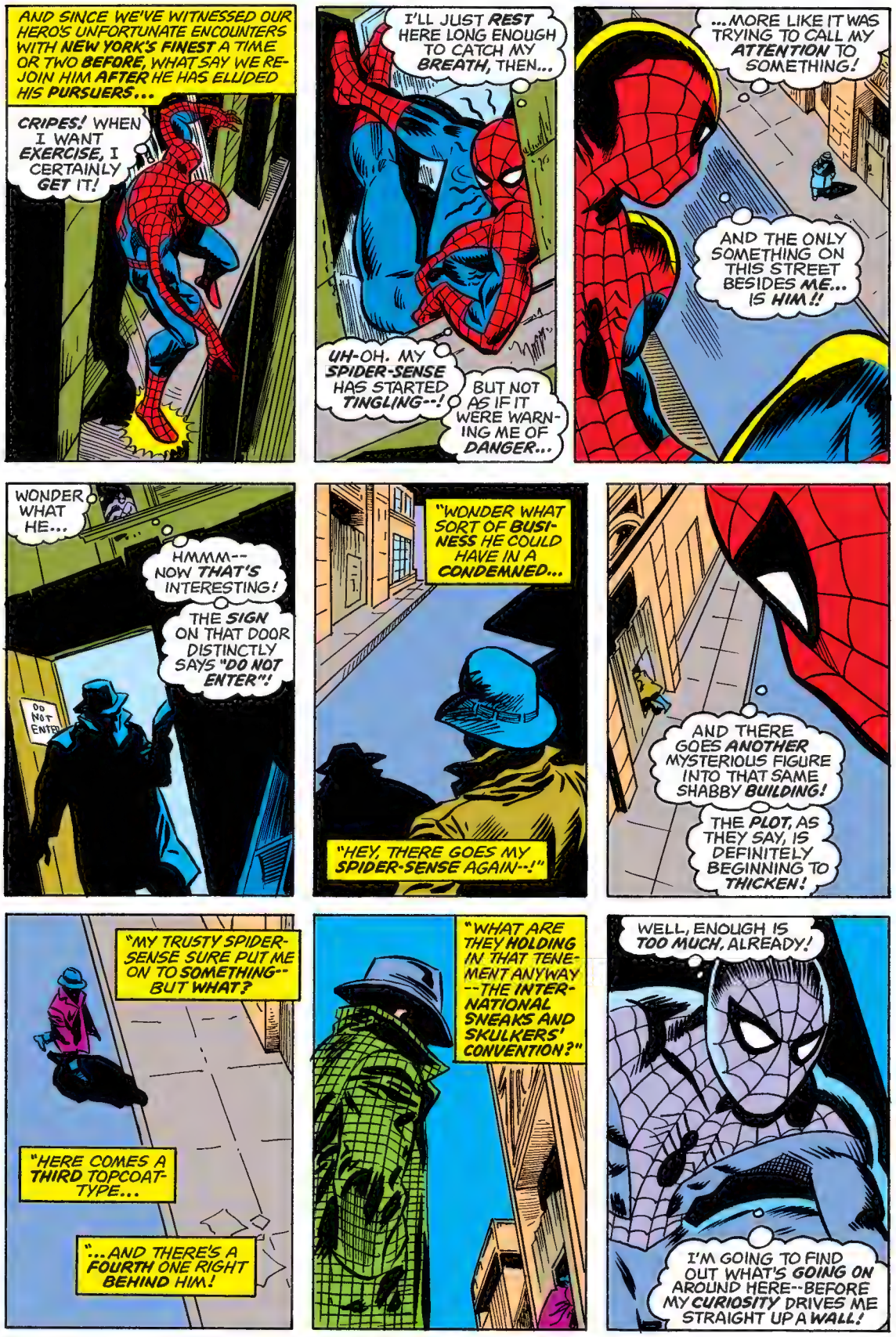
WELL, I'M LISTENING, MISTER! START TALKING!
HAVE TO BE HESITANT ...CAN'T MAKE THIS SEEM TOO EASY...
I'M THINKING, JONAH! IT'S JUST THAT THOSE PICTURES LOOK...
BINGO!

I THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHING FAMILIAR ABOUT THOSE SNAPSHOTS--!
NOW WHERE THE HECK DID I STASH THOSE OLD PRINTS OF MINE?
I'M GETTING IMPATIENT, MISTER!
JUST HOLD YOUR HORSES A SECOND!


THERE! DO YOU SEE? I KNEW I HAD THESE PICTURES AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
MATCH YOUR PHOTO IN THE CENTER AGAINST MY TWO PHOTOS FLANKING IT ON EITHER SIDE!
DO YOU NOTICE ANY UNUSUAL SIMILARITIES, JONAH?

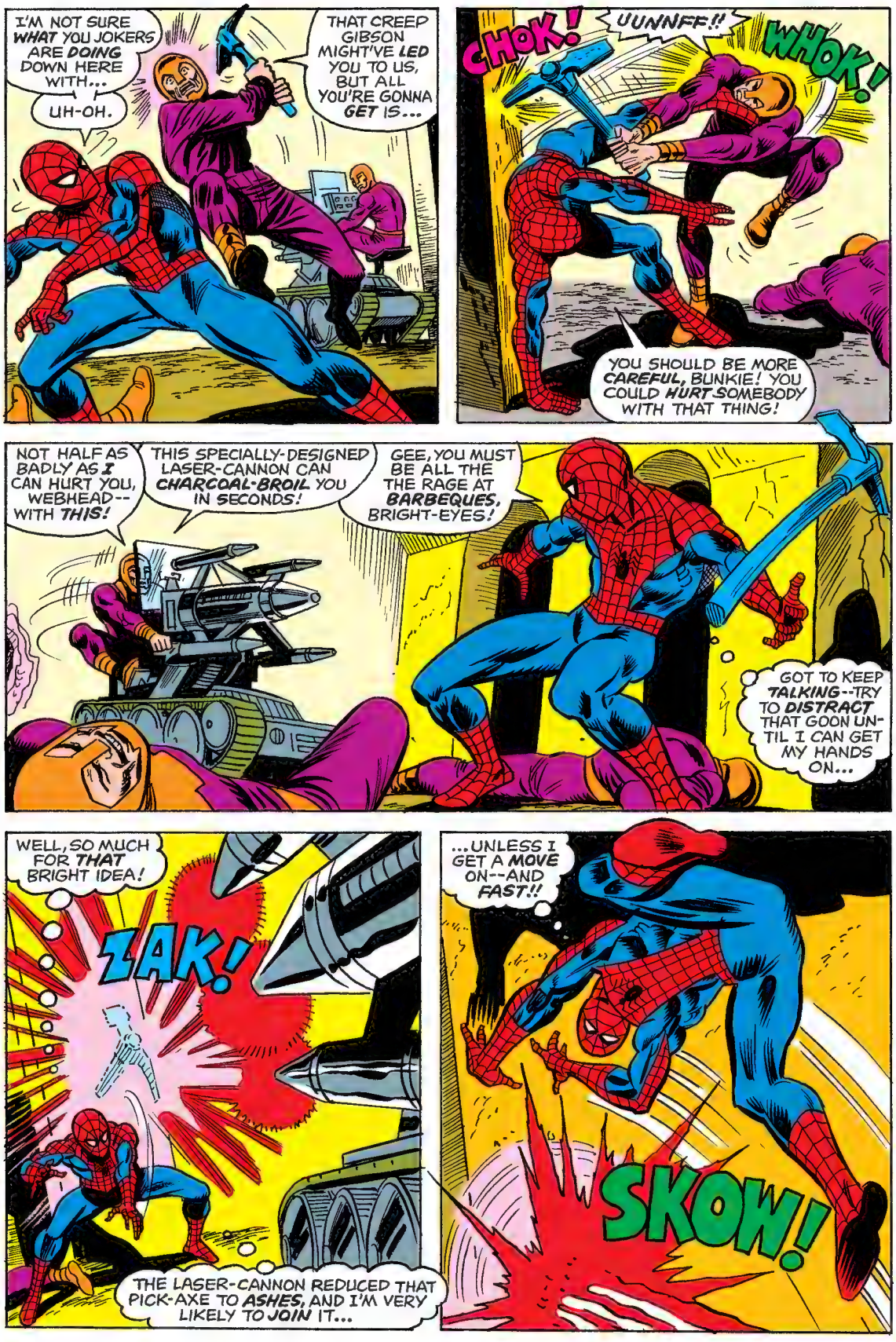
AND TAKE A LOOK AT THESE SHOTS--IT'S THE SAME SITUATION!
THESE PHOTOS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN CAREFULLY-CRAFTED DOUBLE EXPOSURES!
SORRY, JONAH--BUT IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY SOLD YOU AN ENVELOPE FULL OF FORGERIES!
NICE TRY, BUSTER...
...BUT SINCE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WITH ACCESS TO YOUR ORIGINAL PHOTOS...
...WHO BESIDES YOU COULD HAVE PRODUCED THOSE FORGERIES??
CRIPES! I HADN'T CONSIDERED THAT!
WELL--ER--WHAT ABOUT HARRY OSBORN? WE WERE STILL ROOMMATES WHILE HE WAS THE GREEN GOBLIN!
MAYBE, IN HIS DELIRIUM, HE TRIED TO INCRIMINATE ME IN HIS...
ENOUGH, PARKER! YOU'VE CONVINCED ME!
I HAVE?
WELL, MY BOY, IT--AH--APPEARS I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY!
APOLOGY GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED, MR. J--ALONG WITH THE SMALL RAISE I EXPECT TO FIND IN MY NEXT PAYCHECK!
R-R-RAISE?
PARKER, CONSIDERING THE NUMBER OF NEWSWORTHY PHOTOS YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TURNING IN LATELY, YOU'RE LUCKY I DON'T FIRE YOU!
A RAISE? BAH! WHAT DO YOU THINK I'M RUNNING--SOME SORT OF DAD-BLASTED CHARITY?
?
WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW?
EVERYTHING IS FINALLY BACK TO NORMAL!

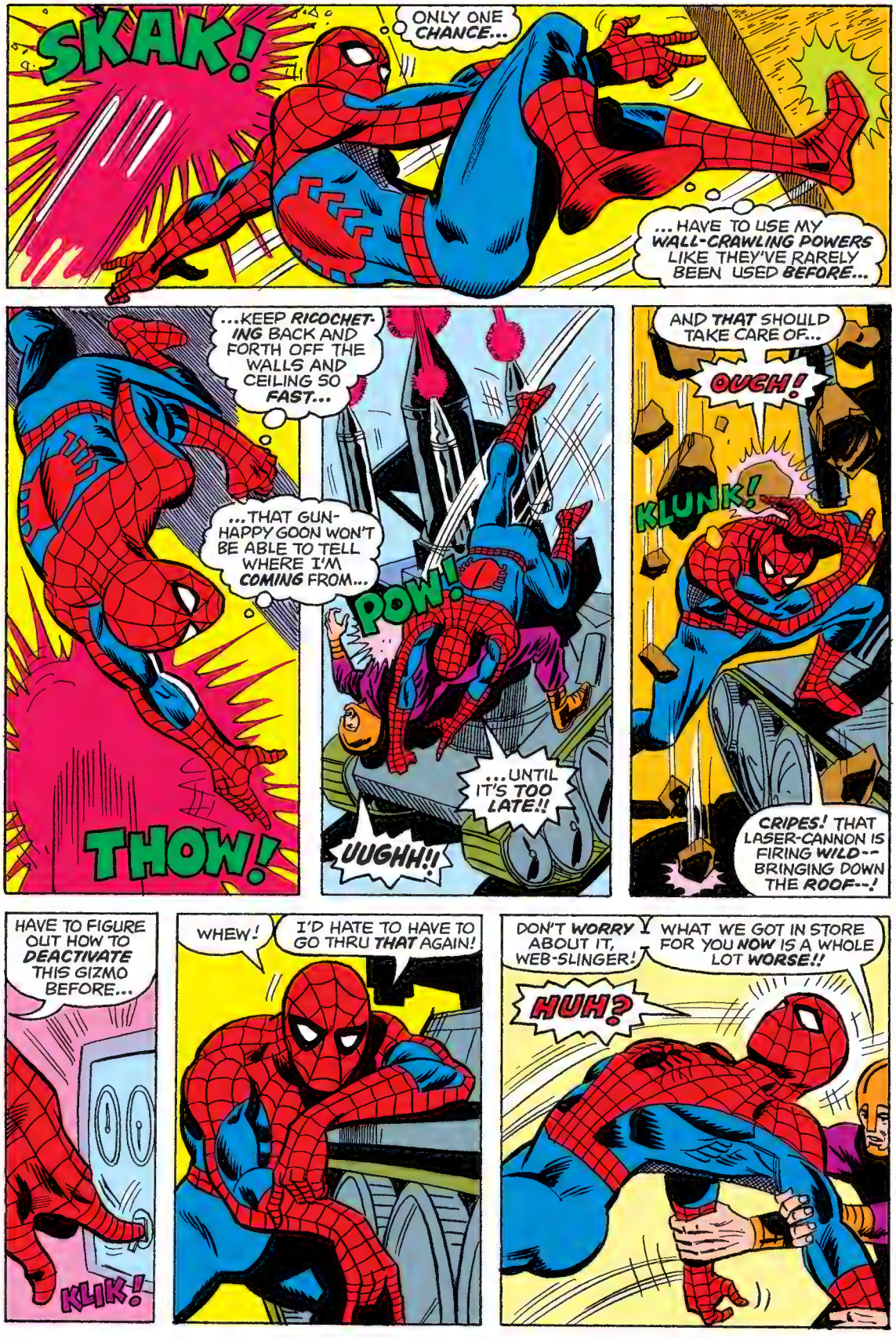

SHORTLY, AFTER REPAIRING HIS BOOT, AN OBVIOUSLY JUBILANT WEB-SLINGER TAKES TO THE EVENING SKY...
POOR JONAH! HE'LL NEVER KNOW HOW CLOSE HE CAME TO NAILING ME THIS TIME!
IF HE HADN'T BRAGGED ABOUT THE EVIDENCE HE HAD, I'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO "BORROW" IT LONG ENOUGH TO PRODUCE THOSE FAKE PHOTOS OF MY OWN!*
WHUNNG!
*AS WITNESSED THESE TWO ISSUES PAST. --LEN.
JONAH WILL NEVER KNOW THAT IT WAS MY PHOTOS WHICH WERE THE DOUBLE EXPOSURES, NOT HIS--
--AND SINCE I'VE ALREADY DESTROYED THE SNAPSHOTS THE TEMPERAMENTAL MR. JAMESON LEFT AT MY APARTMENT...
THWANG!
...THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN EVER PROVE IT!!
WOW! ISN'T IT EXCITING SEEING SPIDER-MAN IN ACTION, CLANCY?
SURE IS, MICHELE! I THINK SPIDEY IS THE GREATEST!
DON'T YOU, MISTER?
WELL, HE'S NOT EXACTLY VERA VALIANT, SON--BUT I GUESS HE'LL DO!
OF COURSE, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO SENT JONAH THOSE PICTURES IN THE FIRST PLACE--
--BUT THAT'S A PROBLEM FOR ANOTHER DAY!
RIGHT NOW, ALL I'M INTERESTED IN IS A LITTLE HEALTHY EXERCISE!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, SARGE--SPIDER-MAN! YOU' BETTER GET A SQUAD DOWN HERE--FAST!

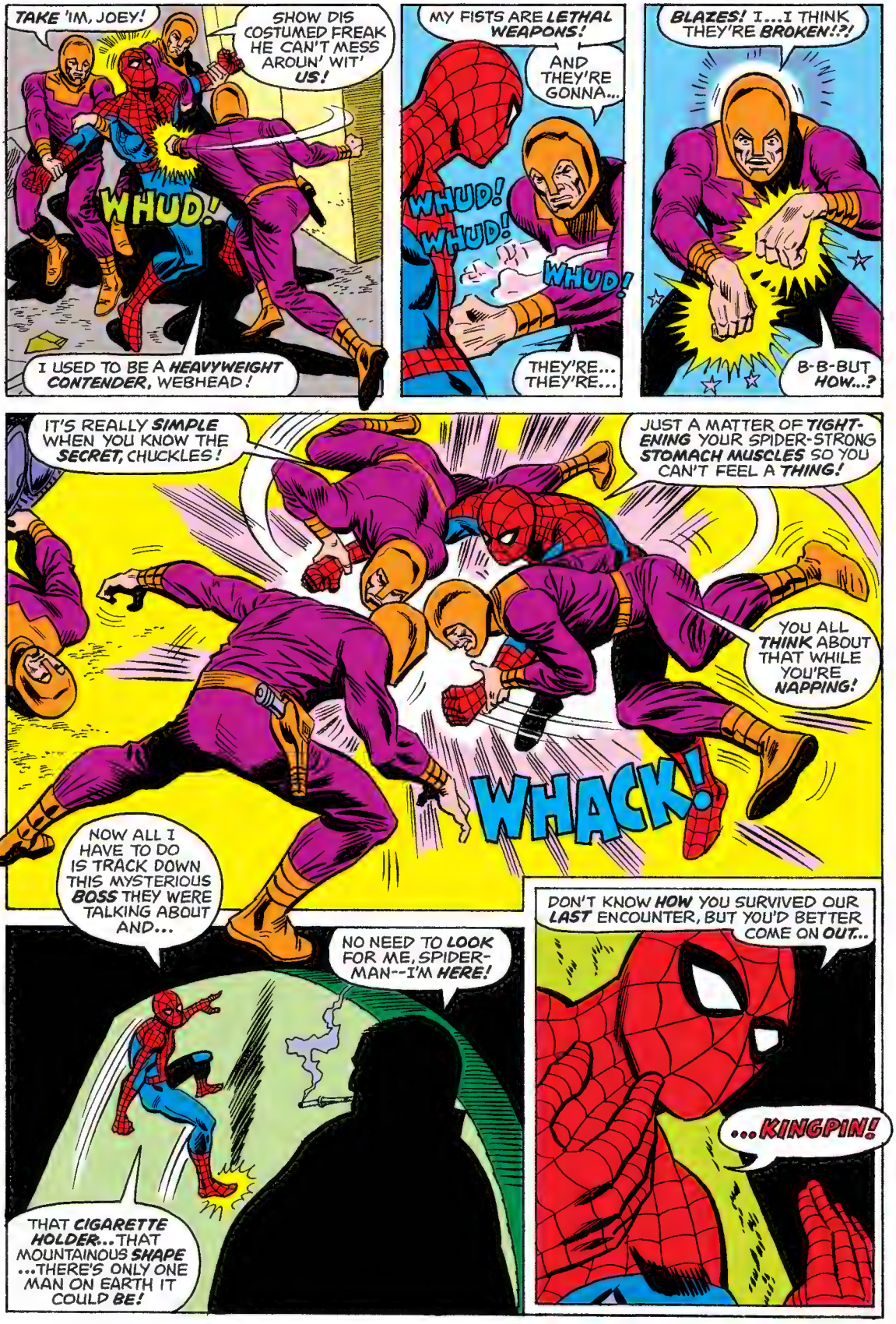

AND SINCE WE'VE WITNESSED OUR HERO'S UNFORTUNATE ENCOUNTERS WITH NEW YORK'S FINEST A TIME OR TWO BEFORE, WHAT SAY WE RE-JOIN HIM AFTER HE HAS ELUDED HIS PURSUERS...
CRIPES! WHEN I WANT EXERCISE, I CERTAINLY GET IT!
I'LL JUST REST HERE LONG ENOUGH TO CATCH MY BREATH, THEN...
UH-OH. MY SPIDER-SENSE HAS STARTED TINGLING--!
BUT NOT AS IF IT WERE WARNING ME OF DANGER...
...MORE LIKE IT WAS TRYING TO CALL MY ATTENTION TO SOMETHING!
AND THE ONLY SOMETHING ON THIS STREET BESIDES ME... IS HIM!!
WONDER WHAT HE...
HMMM--NOW THAT'S INTERESTING!
THE SIGN ON THAT DOOR DISTINCTLY SAYS "DO NOT ENTER"!
DO NOT ENTER
"WONDER WHAT SORT OF BUSINESS HE COULD HAVE IN A CONDEMNED...
"HEY, THERE GOES MY SPIDER-SENSE AGAIN--!"
AND THERE GOES ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS FIGURE INTO THAT SAME SHABBY BUILDING!
THE PLOT, AS THEY SAY, IS DEFINITELY BEGINNING TO THICKEN!
"MY TRUSTY SPIDER-SENSE SURE PUT ME ON TO SOMETHING--BUT WHAT?
"HERE COMES A THIRD TOPCOAT-TYPE...
"...AND THERE'S A FOURTH ONE RIGHT BEHIND HIM!
"WHAT ARE THEY HOLDING IN THAT TENEMENT ANYWAY --THE INTERNATIONAL SNEAKS AND SKULKERS' CONVENTION?"
WELL, ENOUGH IS TOO MUCH, ALREADY!
I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE--BEFORE MY CURIOSITY DRIVES ME STRAIGHT UP A WALL!

HUH?
AND NO SOONER SAID...
...THAN DONE!
CONGRATULATIONS, CHUM! YOU'RE THE NEXT CONTESTANT ON THE $64,000 QUESTION!
SWEET MAMA! IT--IT'S SPIDER-MAN!?!
WH--WHADDAYA WANT WIT' ME, WEB-HEAD? I--I DON'T KNOW NUTHIN'!
LISTENING TO YOU TALK, CHUCKLES--I'M INCLINED TO AGREE! BUT I STILL...
HEY, STOP STRUGGLING LIKE THAT! YOU'LL...
OBOY.
KRRIPP!
OH, LORD--I'M GONNA DIE!!
NO, YOU'RE NOT, BRIGHT-EYES--NOT SO LONG AS THERE ARE LAWS AGAINST LITTERING!
THWIP!
SPAK!
J-JEEZ, SPIDER-MAN--GIMME A BREAK, WILL YA?
M-MY HEART CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE 'A THIS!
THEN WHAT SAY YOU TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, ACE--
--BEFORE YOUR TREMBLING FORCES ME TO DROP YOU AGAIN!
Y-Y-YOU--YOU WOULDN'T--?!
DON'T WORRY, PAL--I CAN ALWAYS CATCH YOU WITH MY TRUSTY WEBBING...
...ASSUMING, OF COURSE, MY WEB-SHOOTERS AREN'T EMPTY!
NOW, ARE YOU GOING TO TALK--OR ARE WE BOTH GOING TO FIND OUT ABOUT MY WEBBING THE HARD WAY?
N-NO... YOU WIN!
I'LL TELL YA ANYTHIN' YA WANNA KNOW!

THUS, A SHORT WHILE LATER...
TELL ME, HANK--WHY DO ALL THE CRAZIES SHOW UP ON OUR BEAT?
LAST WEEK, IT WAS THAT YOYO IN THE CHICKEN SUIT--NOW THIS!
THE PROBLEM IS--HOW DO WE GET THAT UNCONSCIOUS BOZO DOWN FROM THERE?
AND, WHILE THE BELEAGUERED BOYS-IN-BLUE PUT OUT A CALL TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, WE'LL LOOK IN ON A CERTAIN ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL SOME DISTANCE AWAY...
MAN, THIS LASER-CANNON THE BOSS BOUGHT FROM THAT TINKERER GUY WORKS LIKE A CHARM!
I JUST WISH GIBSON WOULD GET HERE! THE BOSS DON'T LIKE NOBODY TO BE LATE!
WELL, I HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU, FELLAS--
--BUT YOUR PARTNER ISN'T COMING!
BLAZES! IT'S...
UUNNFF!!
BTOK!
YOUR DICTION IS TERRIBLE, CHUM--THE NAME IS SPIDER-MAN!!
BUT YOU CAN CALL ME SIR!


I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU JOKERS ARE DOING DOWN HERE WITH...
UH-OH.
THAT CREEP GIBSON MIGHT'VE LED YOU TO US, BUT ALL YOU'RE GONNA GET IS...
CHOK!
UUNNFF!!
WHOK!
YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL, BUNKIE! YOU COULD HURT SOMEBODY WITH THAT THING!
NOT HALF AS BADLY AS I CAN HURT YOU, WEBHEAD--WITH THIS!
THIS SPECIALLY-DESIGNED LASER-CANNON CAN CHARCOAL-BROIL YOU IN SECONDS!
GEE, YOU MUST BE ALL THE THE RAGE AT BARBEQUES, BRIGHT-EYES!
GOT TO KEEP TALKING--TRY TO DISTRACT THAT GOON UNTIL I CAN GET MY HANDS ON...
WELL, SO MUCH FOR THAT BRIGHT IDEA!
ZAK!
THE LASER-CANNON REDUCED THAT PICK-AXE TO ASHES, AND I'M VERY LIKELY TO JOIN IT...
...UNLESS I GET A MOVE ON--AND FAST!!
SKOW!


SKAK!
ONLY ONE CHANCE...
...HAVE TO USE MY WALL-CRAWLING POWERS LIKE THEY'VE RARELY BEEN USED BEFORE...
...KEEP RICOCHETING BACK AND FORTH OFF THE WALLS AND CEILING SO FAST...
...THAT GUN-HAPPY GOON WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL WHERE I'M COMING FROM...
THOW!
POW!
...UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!!
UUGHH!!
AND THAT SHOULD TAKE CARE OF...
OUCH!
KLUNK!
CRIPES! THAT LASER-CANNON IS FIRING WILD--BRINGING DOWN THE ROOF--!
HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO DEACTIVATE THIS GIZMO BEFORE...
KLIK!
WHEW!
I'D HATE TO HAVE TO GO THRU THAT AGAIN!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, WEB-SLINGER!
WHAT WE GOT IN STORE FOR YOU NOW IS A WHOLE LOT WORSE!!
HUH?


TAKE 'IM, JOEY!
SHOW DIS COSTUMED FREAK HE CAN'T MESS AROUN' WIT' US!
WHUD!
I USED TO BE A HEAVYWEIGHT CONTENDER, WEBHEAD!
MY FISTS ARE LETHAL WEAPONS!
AND THEY'RE GONNA...
WHUD!
WHUD!
WHUD!
THEY'RE... THEY'RE...
BLAZES! I...I THINK THEY'RE BROKEN!?!
B-B-BUT HOW...?
IT'S REALLY SIMPLE WHEN YOU KNOW THE SECRET, CHUCKLES!
JUST A MATTER OF TIGHTENING YOUR SPIDER-STRONG STOMACH MUSCLES SO YOU CAN'T FEEL A THING!
YOU ALL THINK ABOUT THAT WHILE YOU'RE NAPPING!
WHACK!
NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TRACK DOWN THIS MYSTERIOUS BOSS THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT AND...
NO NEED TO LOOK FOR ME, SPIDER-MAN--I'M HERE!
THAT CIGARETTE HOLDER...THAT MOUNTAINOUS SHAPE ...THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN ON EARTH IT COULD BE!
DON'T KNOW HOW YOU SURVIVED OUR LAST ENCOUNTER, BUT YOU'D BETTER COME ON OUT...
...KINGPIN!

NEXT ISSUE: **MADNESS IS ALL IN THE MIND!**

BE HERE! WE PROMISE YOU WON'T REGRET IT!

SPIDER-MAN
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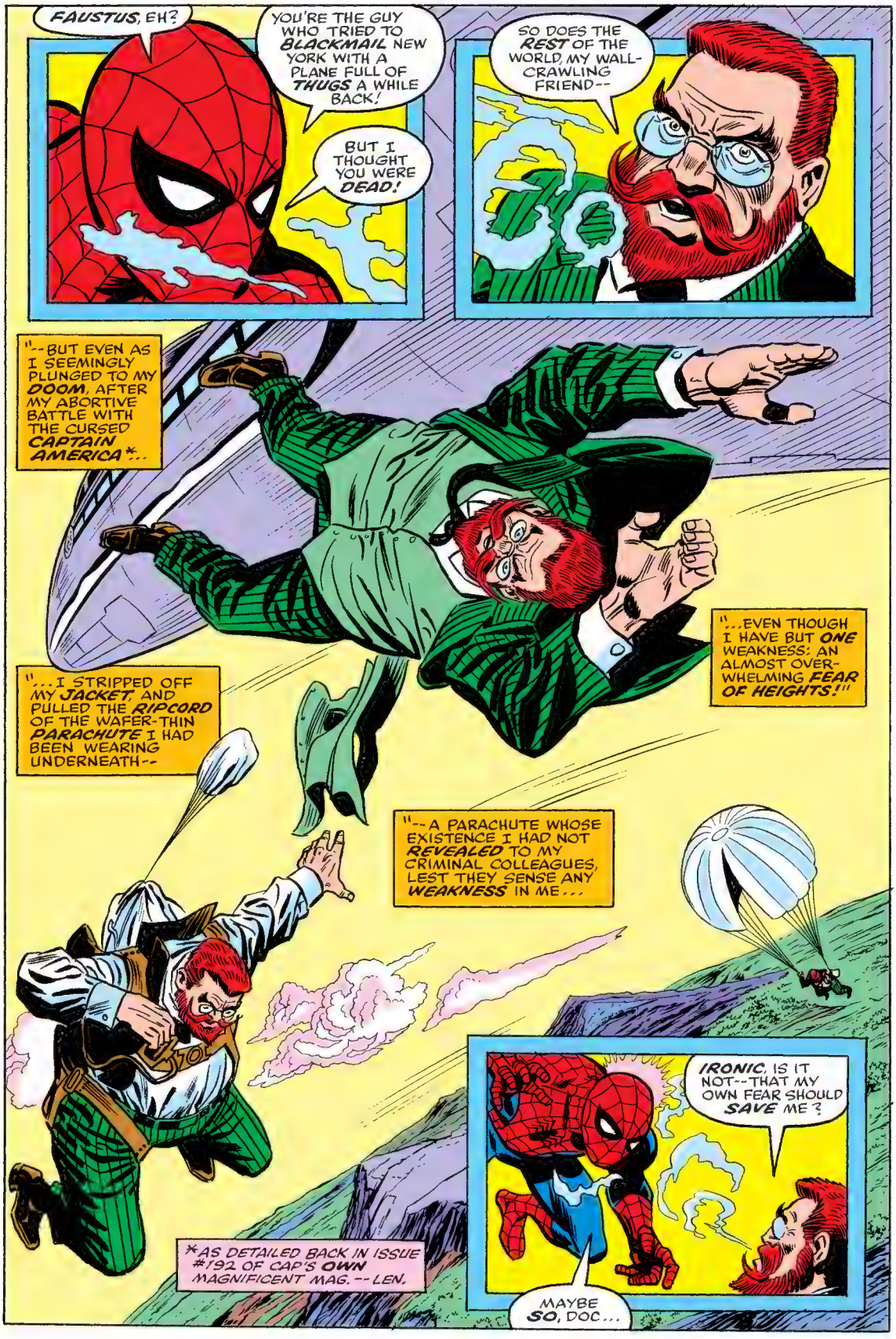
30¢
170
JULY
02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
MY DEADLIEST ENEMIES--COMING THRU THE VERY WALLS AT ME!
AM I GOING MAD?
INDEED YOU ARE, MY BOY--AND ONLY DOCTOR FAUSTUS CAN SAVE YOU!!

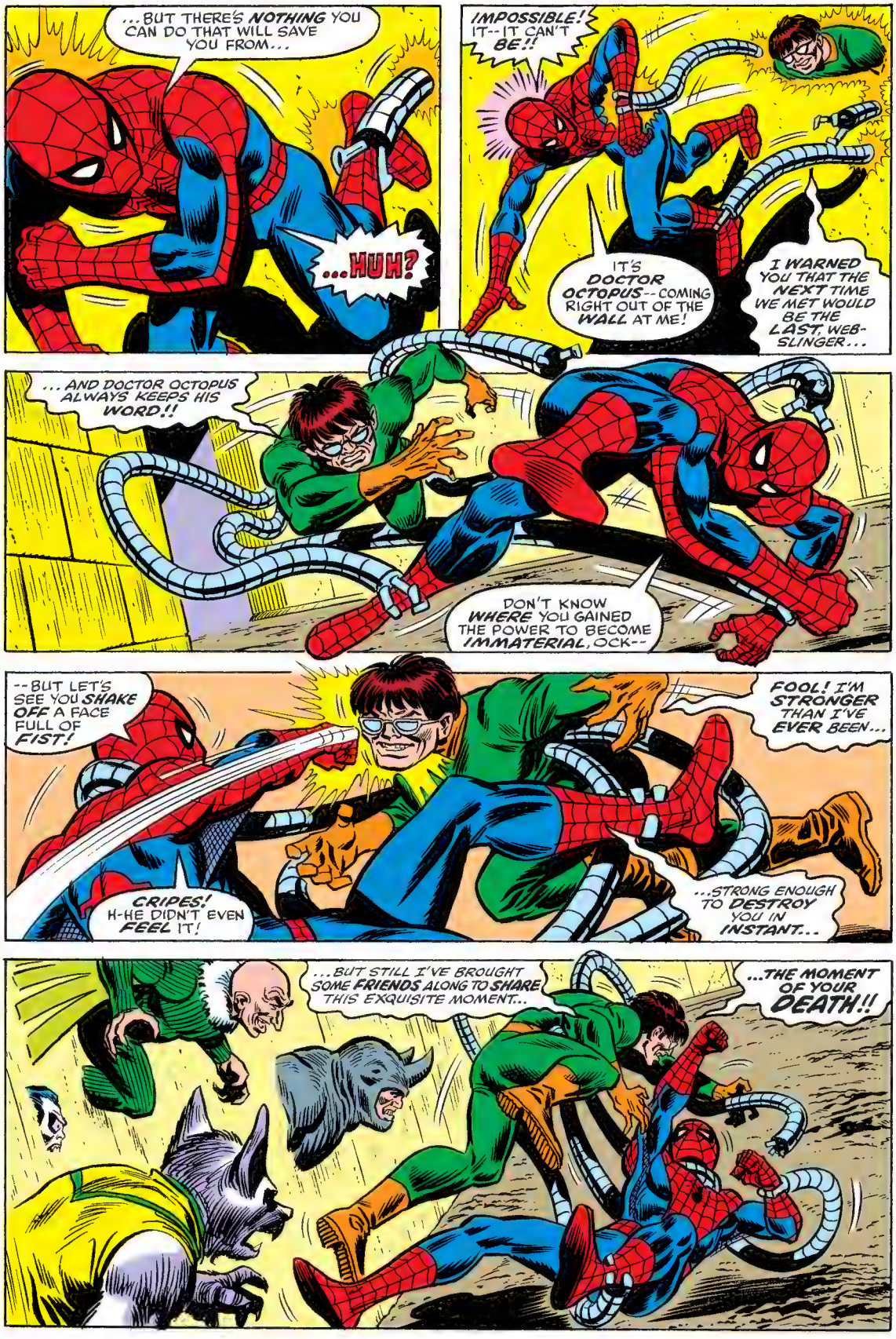
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

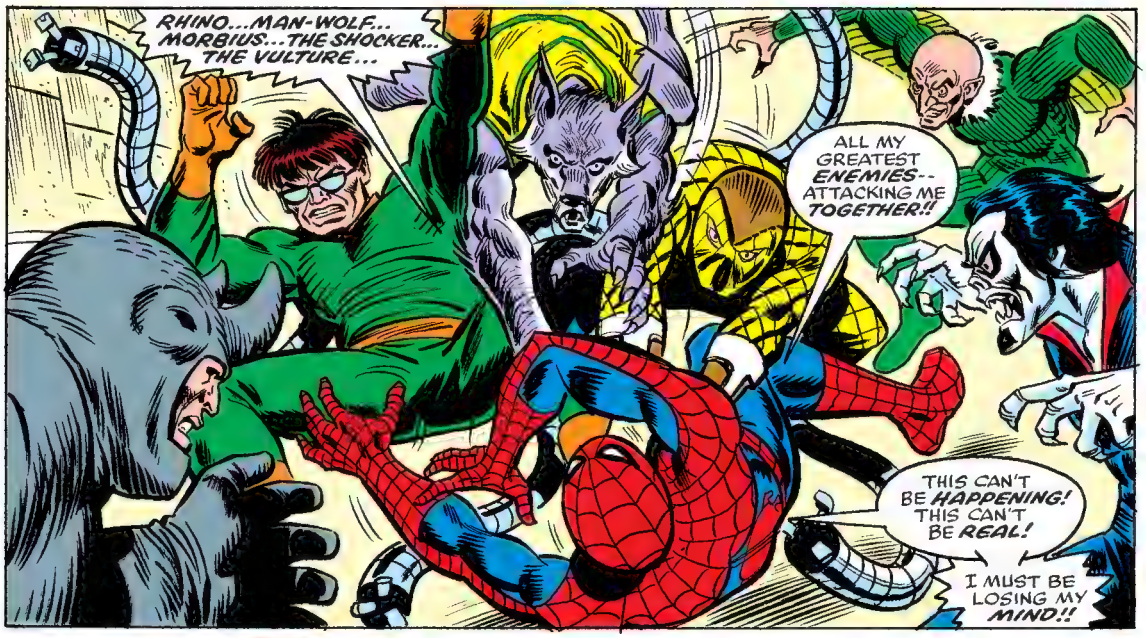
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN, WRITER/EDITOR | ROSS ANDRU, ILLUSTRATOR | GIACOIA & ESPOSITO, EMBELLISHERS | GLYNIS WEIN, COLORIST | JOE ROSEN, LETTERER

HE'D THOUGHT IT WAS THE KINGPIN AT FIRST, THIS MOUNTAINOUS FIGURE STANDING IN THE SHADOWS OF AN ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL WHERE, MOMENTS BEFORE, HE HAD DEFEATED A GANG OF COSTUMED THUGS!
THUS, YOU CAN IMAGINE SPIDER-MAN'S SURPRISE WHEN THAT SELFSAME FIGURE STEPPED OUT OF THE SHADOWS, AND SAID:
MY NAME IS... DOCTOR FAUSTUS!
AND IF YOU THOUGHT OUR HERO'S LIFE WAS A NIGHTMARE BEFORE PILGRIM -- WELL, YOU JUST AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET!
MADNESS IS ALL IN THE MIND!

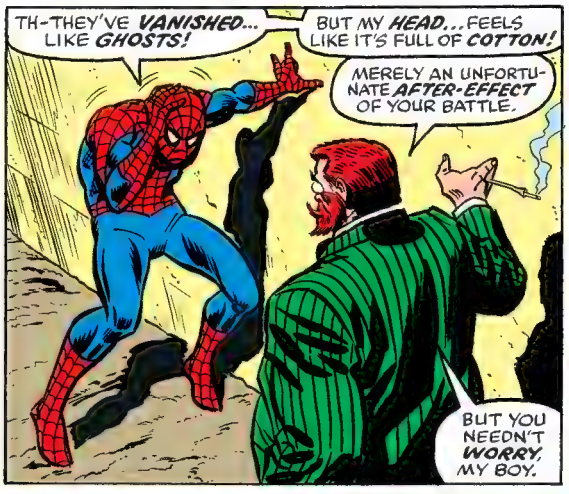

FAUSTUS, EH?
YOU'RE THE GUY WHO TRIED TO BLACKMAIL NEW YORK WITH A PLANE FULL OF THUGS A WHILE BACK!
BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
SO DOES THE REST OF THE WORLD, MY WALL-CRAWLING FRIEND--
"--BUT EVEN AS I SEEMINGLY PLUNGED TO MY DOOM, AFTER MY ABORTIVE BATTLE WITH THE CURSED CAPTAIN AMERICA*...
"...I STRIPPED OFF MY JACKET, AND PULLED THE RIPCORD OF THE WAFER-THIN PARACHUTE I HAD BEEN WEARING UNDERNEATH--
"...EVEN THOUGH I HAVE BUT ONE WEAKNESS: AN ALMOST OVER-WHELMING FEAR OF HEIGHTS!"
"--A PARACHUTE WHOSE EXISTENCE I HAD NOT REVEALED TO MY CRIMINAL COLLEAGUES, LEST THEY SENSE ANY WEAKNESS IN ME...
IRONIC, IS IT NOT--THAT MY OWN FEAR SHOULD SAVE ME?
MAYBE SO, DOC...
*AS DETAILED BACK IN ISSUE #192 OF CAP'S OWN MAGNIFICENT MAG. -- LEN.

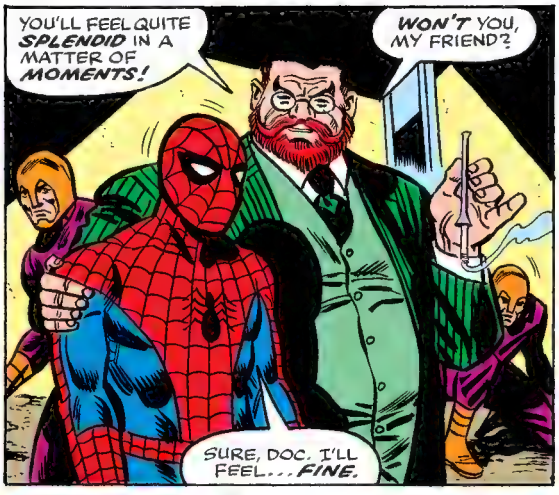

...BUT THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO THAT WILL SAVE YOU FROM...
...HUH?
IMPOSSIBLE! IT--IT CAN'T BE!!
IT'S DOCTOR OCTOPUS--COMING RIGHT OUT OF THE WALL AT ME!
I WARNED YOU THAT THE NEXT TIME WE MET WOULD BE THE LAST, WEB-SLINGER...
...AND DOCTOR OCTOPUS ALWAYS KEEPS HIS WORD!!
DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU GAINED THE POWER TO BECOME IMMATERIAL, OCK--
--BUT LET'S SEE YOU SHAKE OFF A FACE FULL OF FIST!
CRIPES! H-HE DIDN'T EVEN FEEL IT!
FOOL! I'M STRONGER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN...
...STRONG ENOUGH TO DESTROY YOU IN INSTANT...
...BUT STILL I'VE BROUGHT SOME FRIENDS ALONG TO SHARE THIS EXQUISITE MOMENT...
...THE MOMENT OF YOUR DEATH!!

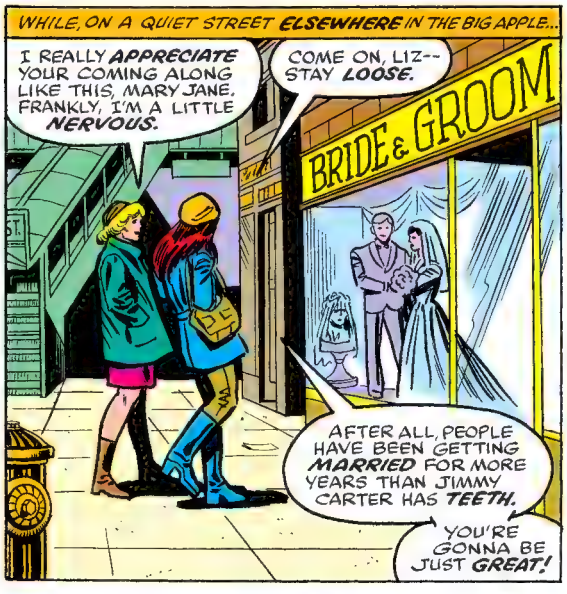

RHINO...MAN-WOLF... MORBIUS...THE SHOCKER... THE VULTURE...
ALL MY GREATEST ENEMIES-- ATTACKING ME TOGETHER!!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING! THIS CAN'T BE REAL!
I MUST BE LOSING MY MIND!!

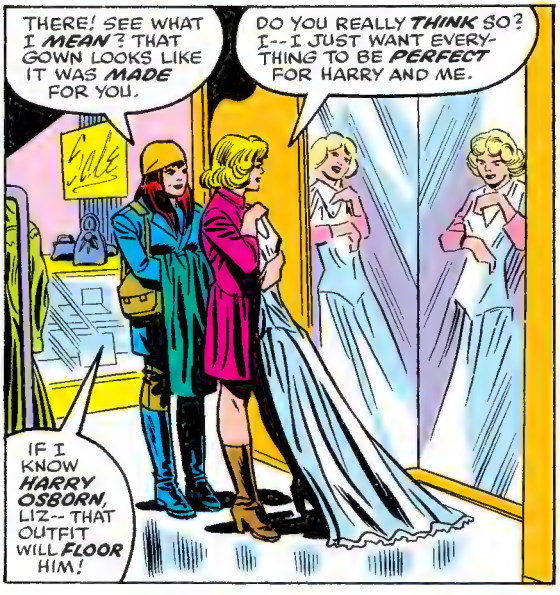
INDEED YOU ARE, MY HELP-LESS FRIEND--
--AND ONLY DOCTOR FAUSTUS CAN SAVE YOU!!

BEGONE, YOU FEARSOME PHANTASMS-- DOCTOR FAUSTUS COMMANDS YOU!!
BEGONE!!
AND, LIKE SO MUCH WIND-BLOWN SMOKE, THE SINISTER SPECTERS DISPERSE--
--FOR, IN TRUTH, SMOKE IS ALL THEY'D BEEN!


TH-THEY'VE VANISHED... LIKE GHOSTS!
BUT MY HEAD... FEELS LIKE IT'S FULL OF COTTON!
MERELY AN UNFORTUNATE AFTER-EFFECT OF YOUR BATTLE.
BUT YOU NEEDN'T WORRY, MY BOY.

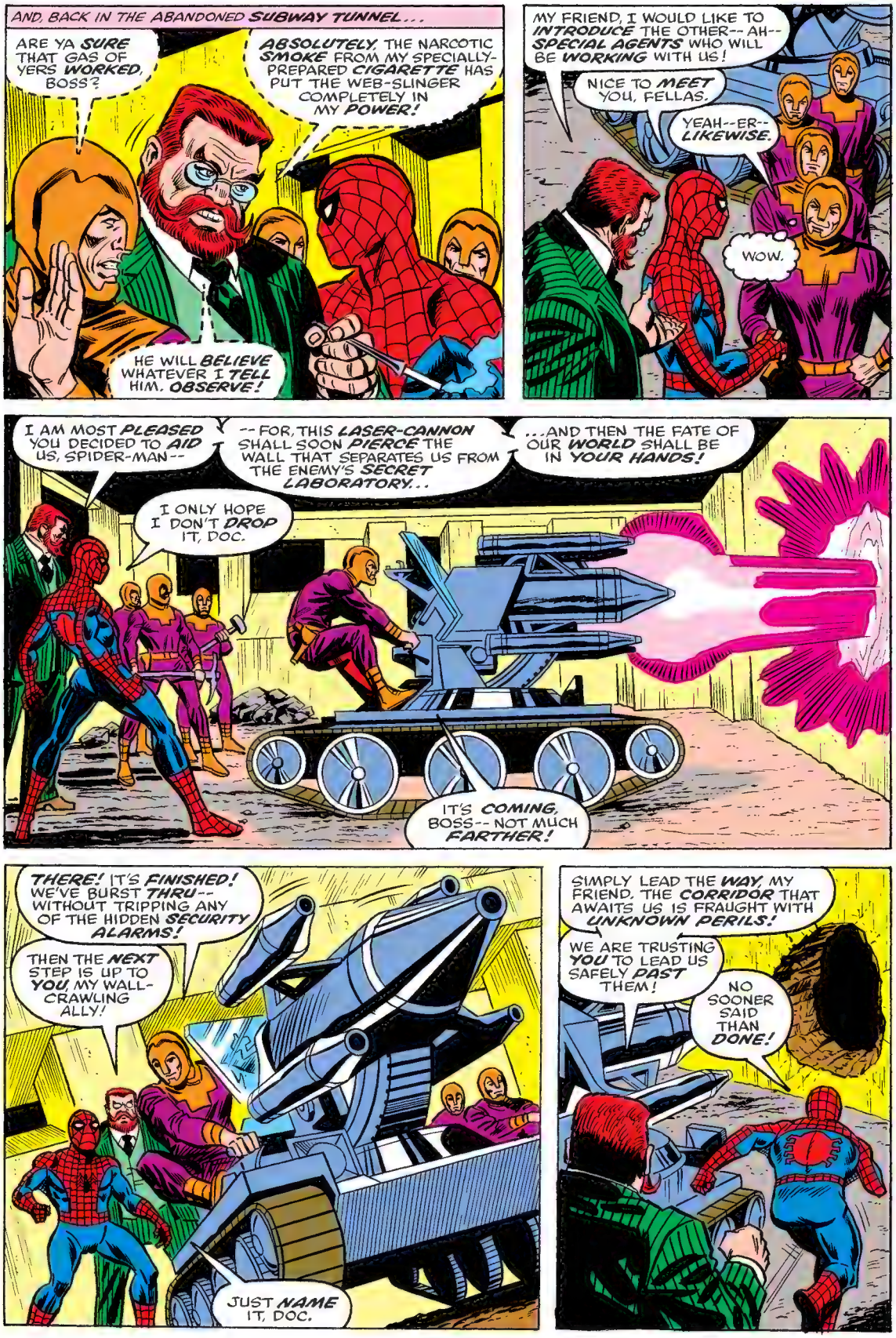

YOU'LL FEEL QUITE SPLENDID IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS!
WON'T YOU, MY FRIEND?
SURE, DOC. I'LL FEEL... FINE.

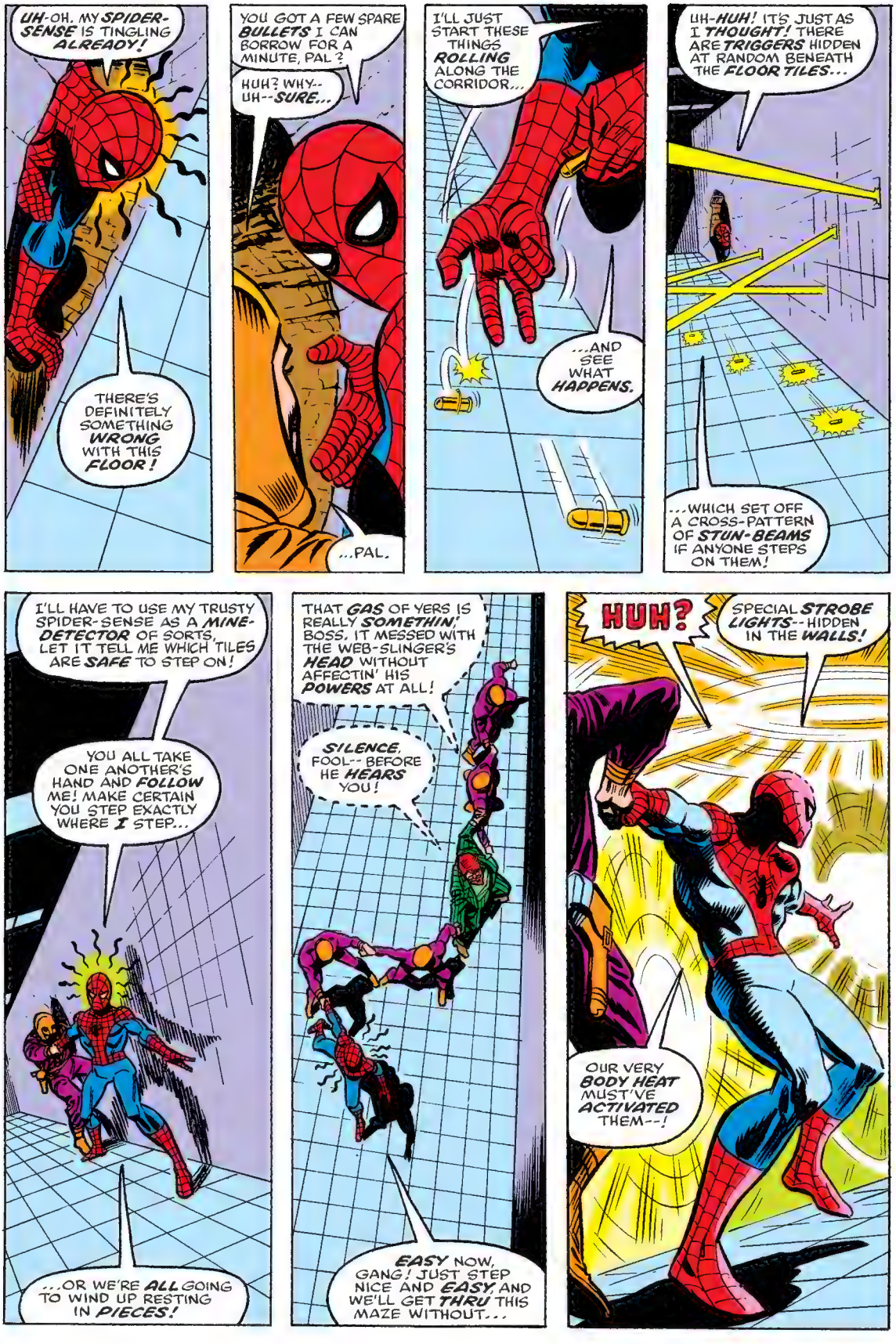

WHILE, ON A QUIET STREET ELSEWHERE IN THE BIG APPLE...
I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR COMING ALONG LIKE THIS, MARY JANE. FRANKLY, I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS.
COME ON, LIZ-- STAY LOOSE.
BRIDE & GROOM
AFTER ALL, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GETTING MARRIED FOR MORE YEARS THAN JIMMY CARTER HAS TEETH.
YOU'RE GONNA BE JUST GREAT!

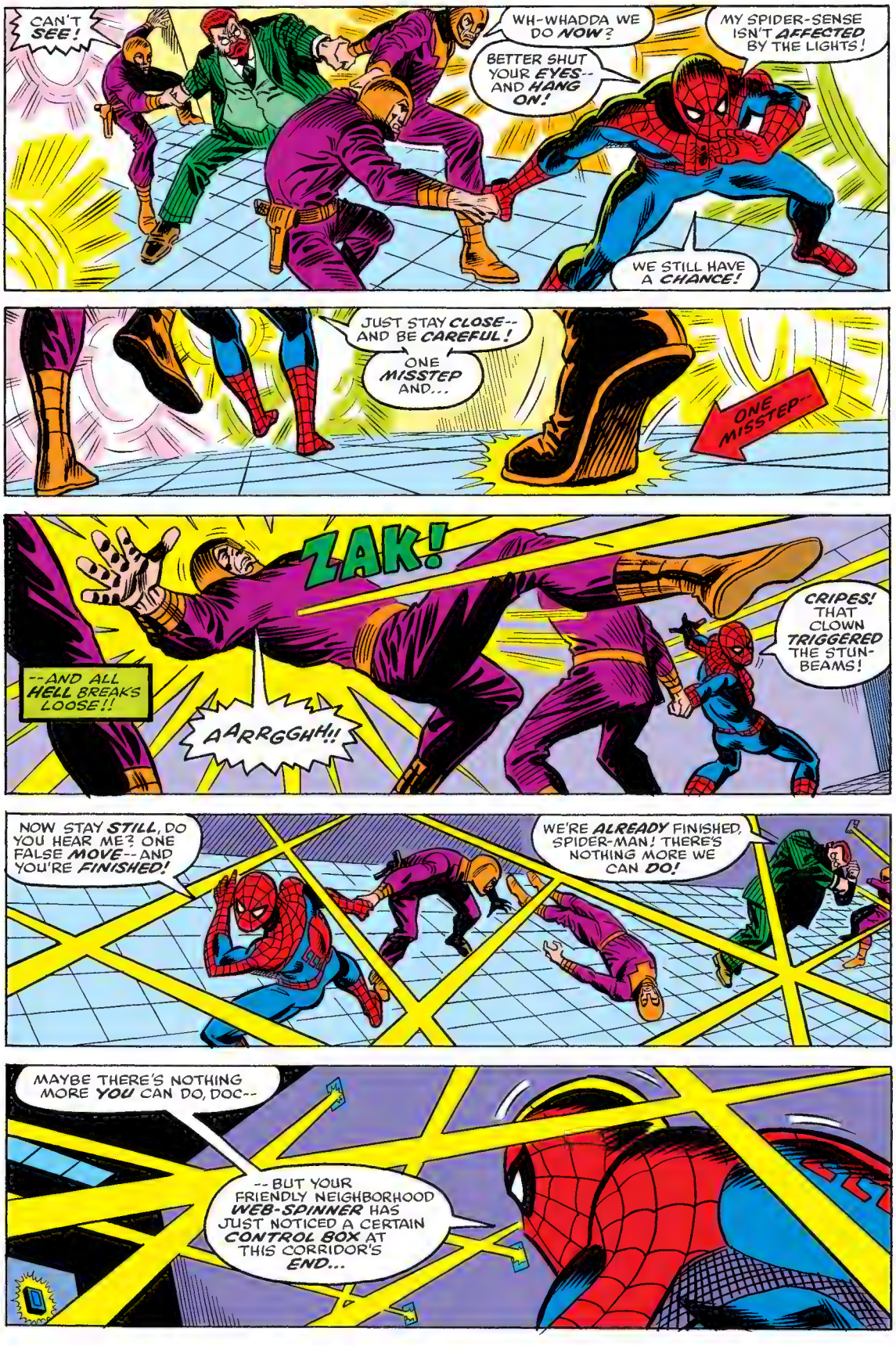

THERE! SEE WHAT I MEAN? THAT GOWN LOOKS LIKE IT WAS MADE FOR YOU.
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO? I-- I JUST WANT EVERYTHING TO BE PERFECT FOR HARRY AND ME.
Sale
IF I KNOW HARRY OSBORN, LIZ-- THAT OUTFIT WILL FLOOR HIM!

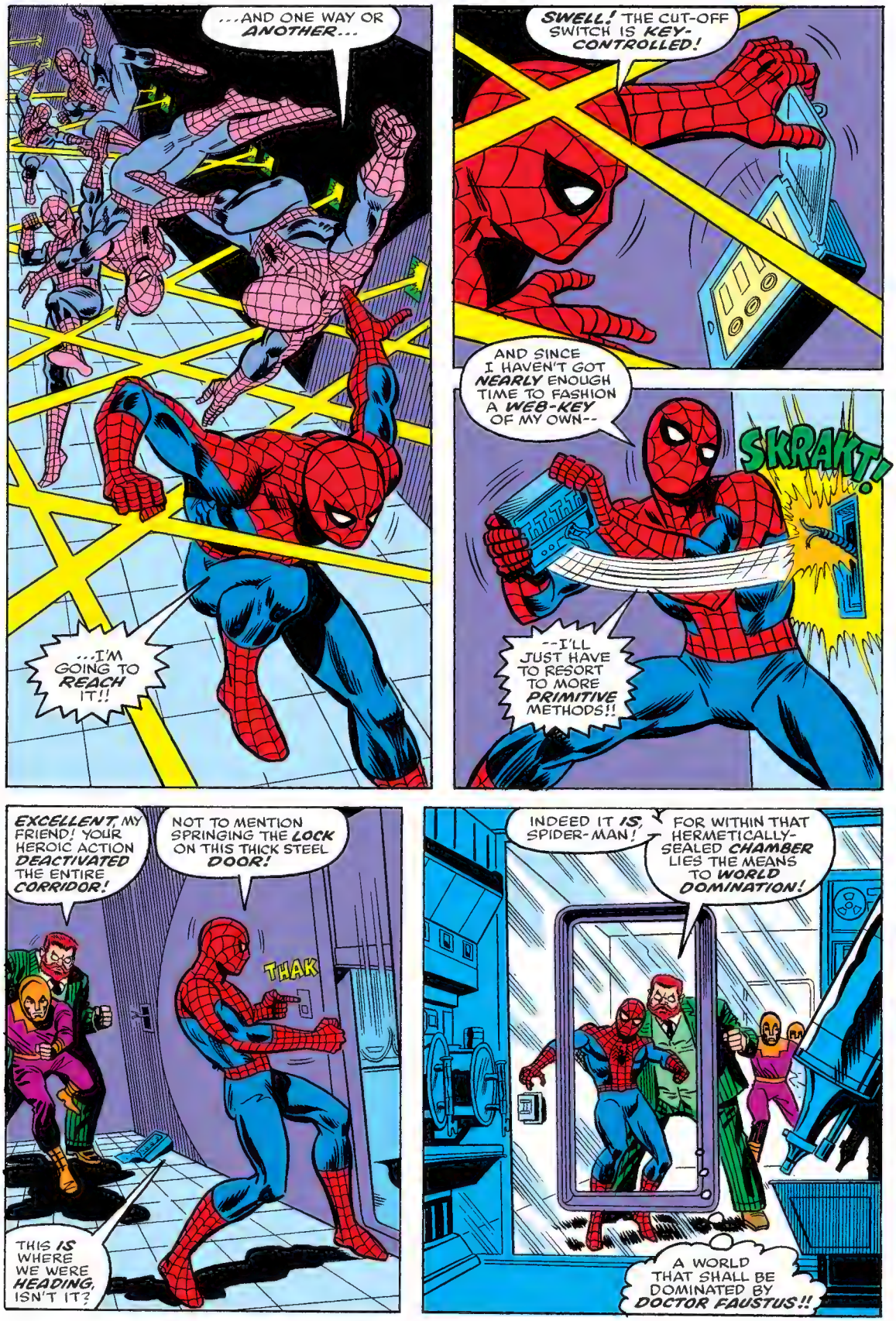
I STILL JUST DON'T KNOW, MARY JANE, TO BE HONEST. I THINK IT LOOKS A LOT BETTER ON YOU THAN ON ME!
HA! I WONDER WHAT PETER PARKER WOULD THINK IF HE SAW ME IN THIS...
CAN I HELP YOU, LADIES?

WHY, YES, WE'RE LOOKING FOR WEDDING...
WELL--AH--ACTUALLY, SHE'S THE ONE WHO'S REALLY LOOKING!
I'M JUST ALONG FOR THE RIDE.
OH.

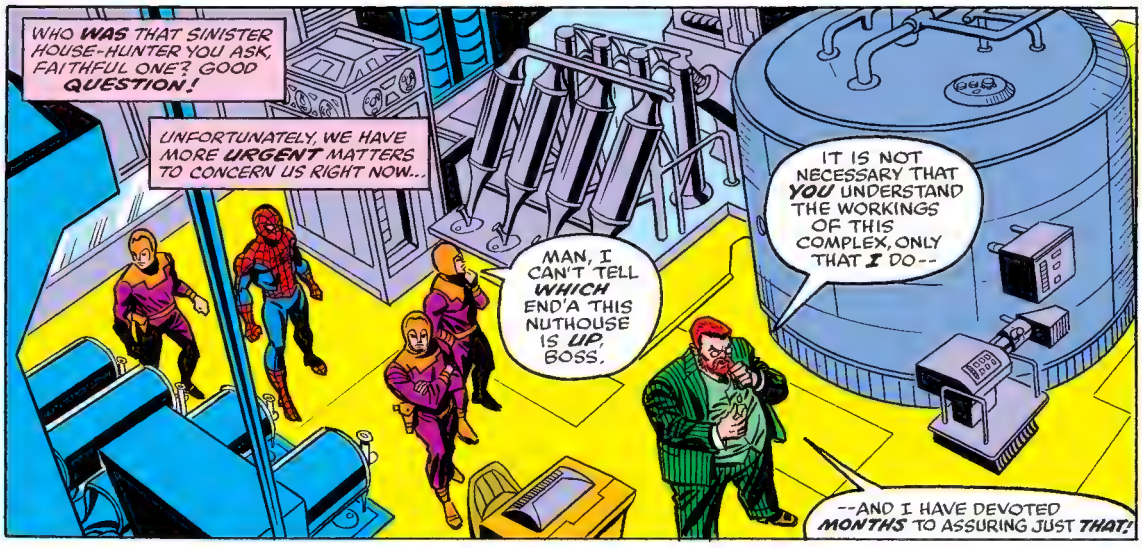

AND, BACK IN THE ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL...
ARE YA SURE THAT GAS OF YERS WORKED, BOSS?
ABSOLUTELY. THE NARCOTIC SMOKE FROM MY SPECIALLY-PREPARED CIGARETTE HAS PUT THE WEB-SLINGER COMPLETELY IN MY POWER!
HE WILL BELIEVE WHATEVER I TELL HIM. OBSERVE!
MY FRIEND, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE THE OTHER-- AH-- SPECIAL AGENTS WHO WILL BE WORKING WITH US!
NICE TO MEET YOU, FELLAS.
YEAH--ER-- LIKEWISE.
WOW.
I AM MOST PLEASED YOU DECIDED TO AID US, SPIDER-MAN--
-- FOR, THIS LASER-CANNON SHALL SOON PIERCE THE WALL THAT SEPARATES US FROM THE ENEMY'S SECRET LABORATORY...
...AND THEN THE FATE OF OUR WORLD SHALL BE IN YOUR HANDS!
I ONLY HOPE I DON'T DROP IT, DOC.
IT'S COMING, BOSS-- NOT MUCH FARTHER!
THERE! IT'S FINISHED! WE'VE BURST THRU-- WITHOUT TRIPPING ANY OF THE HIDDEN SECURITY ALARMS!
THEN THE NEXT STEP IS UP TO YOU, MY WALL-CRAWLING ALLY!
JUST NAME IT, DOC.
SIMPLY LEAD THE WAY, MY FRIEND, THE CORRIDOR THAT AWAITS US IS FRAUGHT WITH UNKNOWN PERILS!
WE ARE TRUSTING YOU TO LEAD US SAFELY PAST THEM!
NO SOONER SAID THAN DONE!

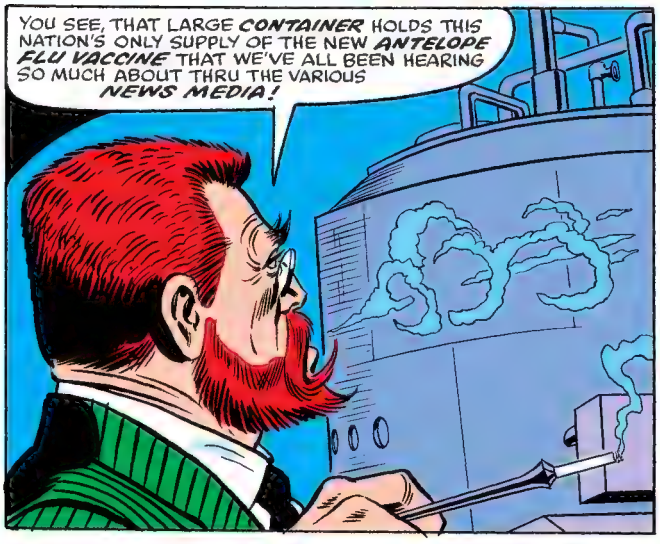

UH-OH. MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING ALREADY!
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS FLOOR!
YOU GOT A FEW SPARE BULLETS I CAN BORROW FOR A MINUTE, PAL?
HUH? WHY-- UH--SURE...
...PAL.
I'LL JUST START THESE THINGS ROLLING ALONG THE CORRIDOR...
...AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
UH-HUH! IT'S JUST AS I THOUGHT! THERE ARE TRIGGERS HIDDEN AT RANDOM BENEATH THE FLOOR TILES...
...WHICH SET OFF A CROSS-PATTERN OF STUN-BEAMS IF ANYONE STEPS ON THEM!
I'LL HAVE TO USE MY TRUSTY SPIDER-SENSE AS A MINE-DETECTOR OF SORTS, LET IT TELL ME WHICH TILES ARE SAFE TO STEP ON!
YOU ALL TAKE ONE ANOTHER'S HAND AND FOLLOW ME! MAKE CERTAIN YOU STEP EXACTLY WHERE I STEP...
...OR WE'RE ALL GOING TO WIND UP RESTING IN PIECES!
THAT GAS OF YERS IS REALLY SOMETHIN', BOSS, IT MESSED WITH THE WEB-SLINGER'S HEAD WITHOUT AFFECTIN' HIS POWERS AT ALL!
SILENCE, FOOL-- BEFORE HE HEARS YOU!
EASY NOW, GANG! JUST STEP NICE AND EASY, AND WE'LL GET THRU THIS MAZE WITHOUT...
HUH?
SPECIAL STROBE LIGHTS-- HIDDEN IN THE WALLS!
OUR VERY BODY HEAT MUST'VE ACTIVATED THEM--!

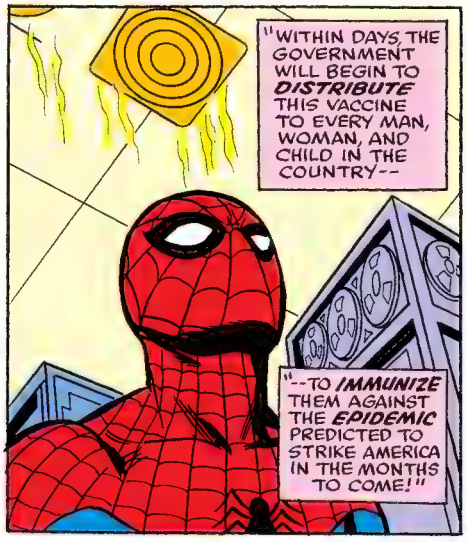

CAN'T SEE!
WH-WHADDA WE DO NOW?
BETTER SHUT YOUR EYES-- AND HANG ON!
MY SPIDER-SENSE ISN'T AFFECTED BY THE LIGHTS!
WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE!
JUST STAY CLOSE-- AND BE CAREFUL!
ONE MISSTEP AND...
ONE MISSTEP--
ZAK!
--AND ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE!!
AARRGGHH!!
CRIPES! THAT CLOWN TRIGGERED THE STUN-BEAMS!
NOW STAY STILL, DO YOU HEAR ME? ONE FALSE MOVE-- AND YOU'RE FINISHED!
WE'RE ALREADY FINISHED, SPIDER-MAN! THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO!
MAYBE THERE'S NOTHING MORE YOU CAN DO, DOC--
-- BUT YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SPINNER HAS JUST NOTICED A CERTAIN CONTROL BOX AT THIS CORRIDOR'S END...

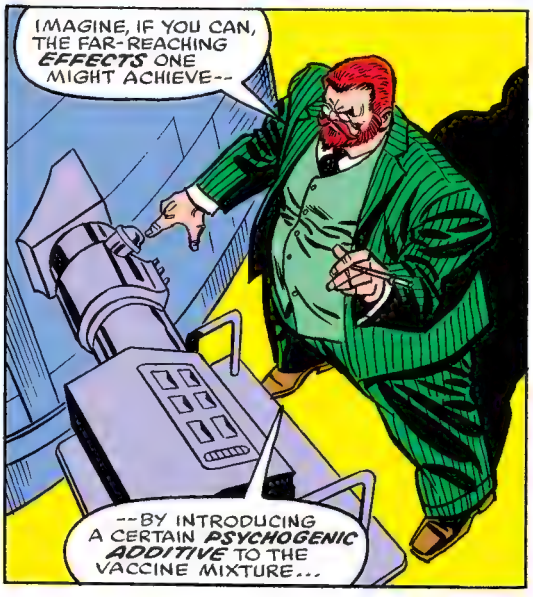

...AND ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...
...I'M GOING TO REACH IT!!
SWELL! THE CUT-OFF SWITCH IS KEY-CONTROLLED!
AND SINCE I HAVEN'T GOT NEARLY ENOUGH TIME TO FASHION A WEB-KEY OF MY OWN--
SKRAKT!
--I'LL JUST HAVE TO RESORT TO MORE PRIMITIVE METHODS!!
EXCELLENT, MY FRIEND! YOUR HEROIC ACTION DEACTIVATED THE ENTIRE CORRIDOR!
NOT TO MENTION SPRINGING THE LOCK ON THIS THICK STEEL DOOR!
THAK
THIS IS WHERE WE WERE HEADING, ISN'T IT?
INDEED IT IS, SPIDER-MAN!
FOR WITHIN THAT HERMETICALLY-SEALED CHAMBER LIES THE MEANS TO WORLD DOMINATION!
A WORLD THAT SHALL BE DOMINATED BY DOCTOR FAUSTUS!!

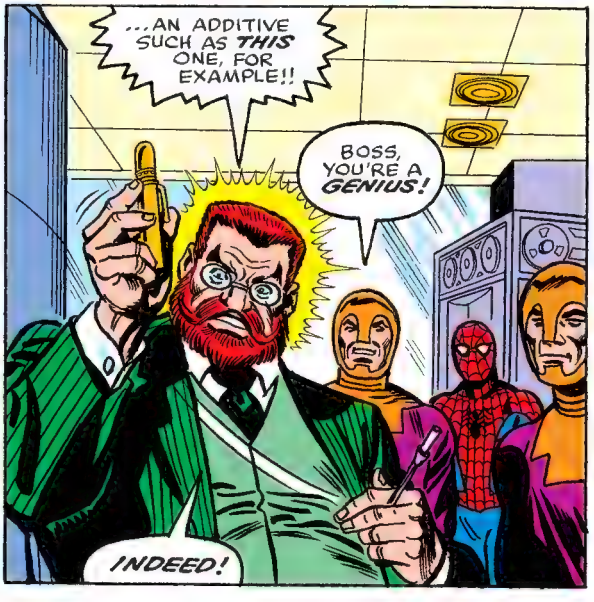
AND ON THAT NOTE, WE TAKE LEAVE OF THE ENTHRALLED WEB-SLINGER FOR THE MOMENT--AND TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A RESIDENTIAL AREA OF FOREST HILLS...
THIS IS THE HOUSE, SIR. I'M CERTAIN IT'S JUST WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.
UH-HUH.
I HATE TO USE THE CLICHÉ--BUT A LITTLE OLD LADY AND HER FAMILY USED TO LIVE HERE. PARKER, I THINK THEIR NAME WAS.
AFTER THE PARKER WOMAN'S HUSBAND DIED, THIS PLACE WAS JUST TOO LARGE FOR HER--SO SHE AND HER NEPHEW FINALLY MOVED OUT.
SHE STILL OWNS THE HOUSE, BUT SHE'S EMPOWERED MY AGENCY TO RENT IT. PROVIDES HER WITH A LITTLE PENSION, YOU UNDERSTAND.
UH-HUH.
I'LL TAKE IT.
OF COURSE, THE BEST FEATURE OF THIS HOUSE IS ITS... EH? WHAT DID YOU SAY, SIR?
I SAID I'LL TAKE IT.
WELL--AH--IF YOU INSIST, SIR.
BELIEVE ME, SIR, YOU'VE MADE A VERY WISE CHOICE. THIS HOUSE WILL BRING YOU A GREAT DEAL OF JOY.
YEAH... I KNOW.
LOOK, WHY DON'T YOU GO ON AHEAD. I WANNA LOOK OVER THE--ER--NEIGHBORHOOD.
THE JERK! HE DIDN'T HAVE TO TWIST MY ARM TO TAKE THIS JOINT!
I'D HAVE PAID HIM TEN TIMES THE RENT HE ASKED FOR IF IT HAD COME TO IT!
I SWORE I'D RETURN TO YOU SOMEDAY, YOU BROKEN-DOWN OLD FIRETRAP--
--AND THIS TIME I'M NOT LEAVING TILL THE SECRET YOU POSSESS IS MINE!!


WHO WAS THAT SINISTER HOUSE-HUNTER YOU ASK, FAITHFUL ONE? GOOD QUESTION!
UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE MORE URGENT MATTERS TO CONCERN US RIGHT NOW...
MAN, I CAN'T TELL WHICH END'A THIS NUTHOUSE IS UP, BOSS.
IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THE WORKINGS OF THIS COMPLEX, ONLY THAT I DO--
--AND I HAVE DEVOTED MONTHS TO ASSURING JUST THAT!

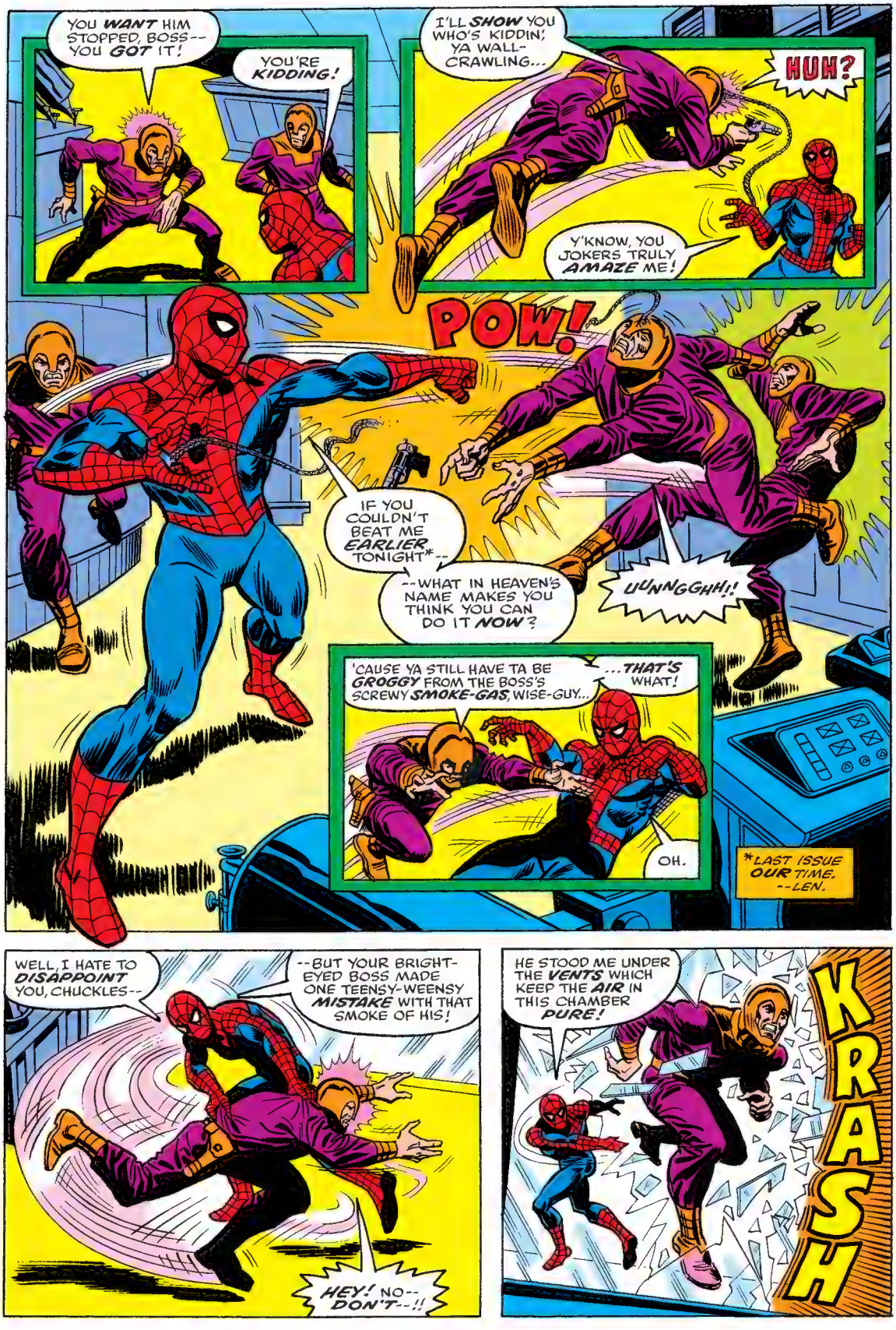

YOU SEE, THAT LARGE CONTAINER HOLDS THIS NATION'S ONLY SUPPLY OF THE NEW ANTELOPE FLU VACCINE THAT WE'VE ALL BEEN HEARING SO MUCH ABOUT THRU THE VARIOUS NEWS MEDIA!


"WITHIN DAYS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BEGIN TO DISTRIBUTE THIS VACCINE TO EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD IN THE COUNTRY--
"--TO IMMUNIZE THEM AGAINST THE EPIDEMIC PREDICTED TO STRIKE AMERICA IN THE MONTHS TO COME!"

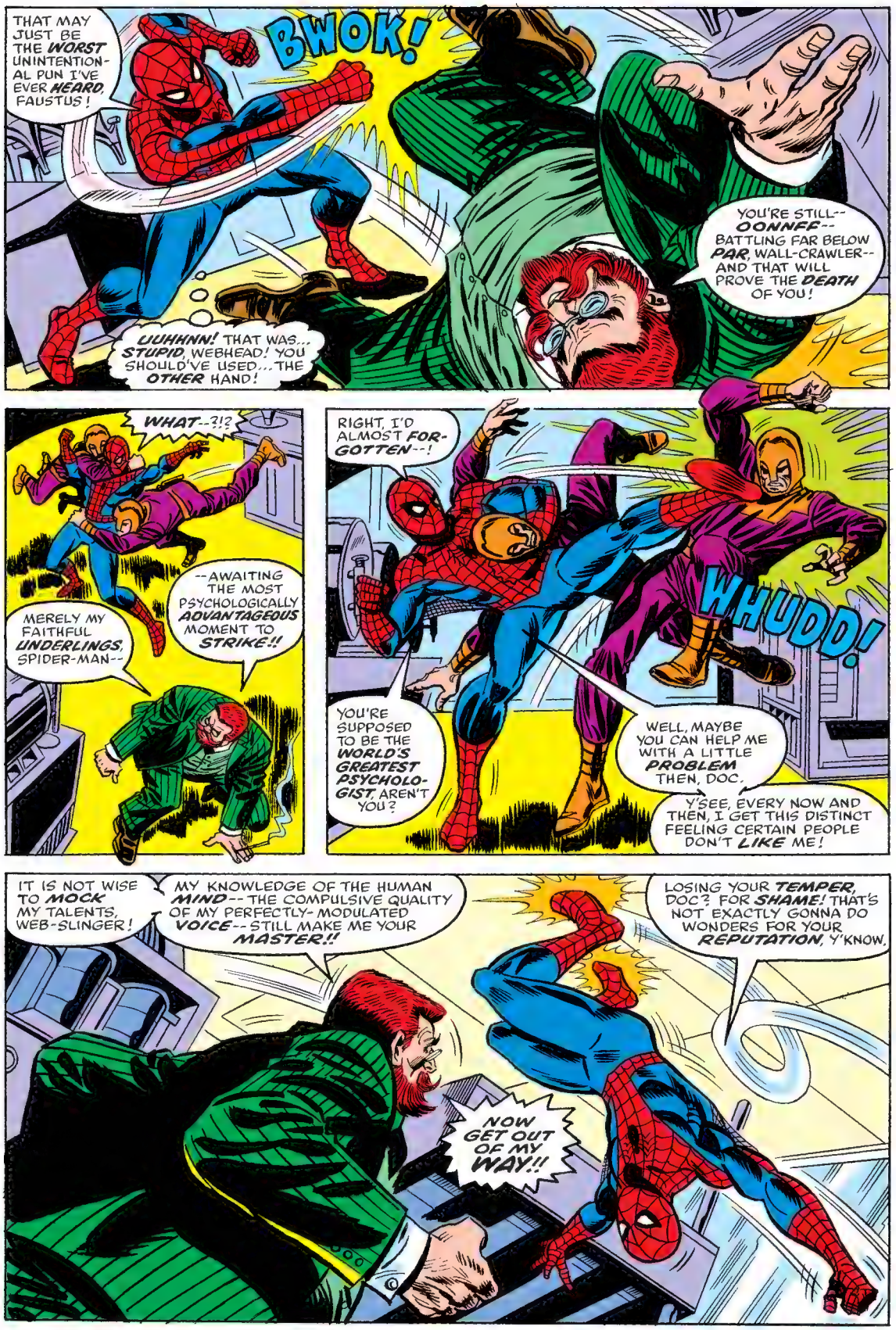

IMAGINE, IF YOU CAN, THE FAR-REACHING EFFECTS ONE MIGHT ACHIEVE--
--BY INTRODUCING A CERTAIN PSYCHOGENIC ADDITIVE TO THE VACCINE MIXTURE...

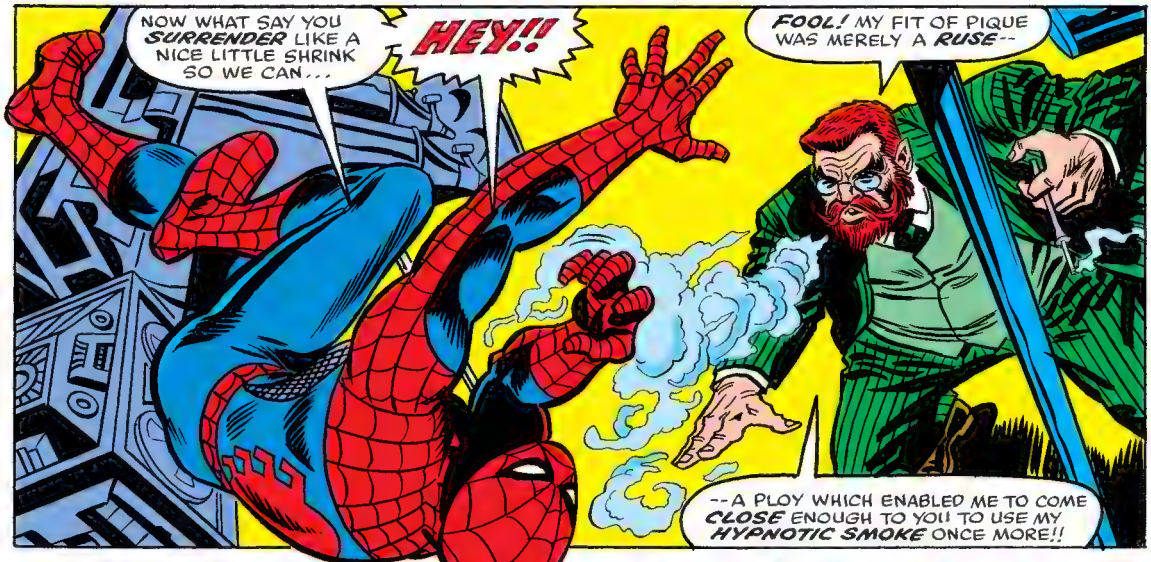

...AN ADDITIVE SUCH AS THIS ONE, FOR EXAMPLE!!
BOSS, YOU'RE A GENIUS!
INDEED!

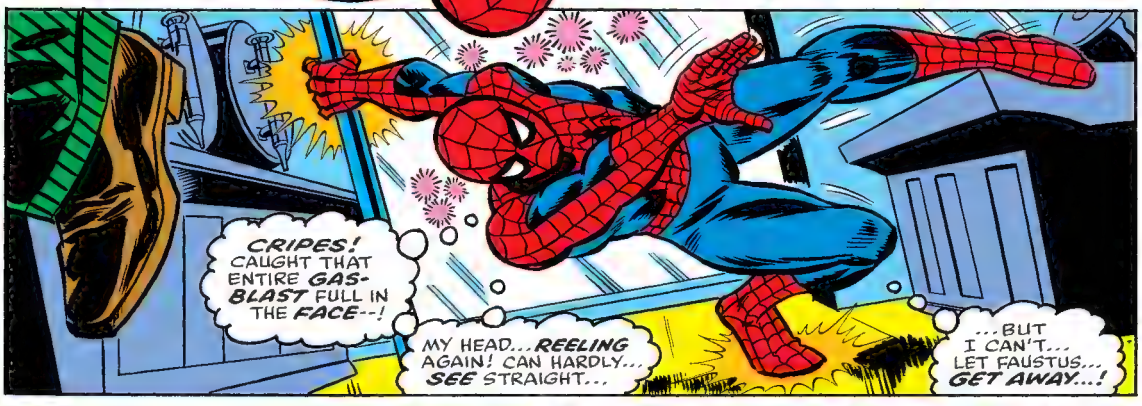
SOON, THE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE THAT ARE INJECTED WITH THE ALTERED FLU VACCINE WILL BECOME SUSCEPTIBLE TO MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL!
WH-WHAT'S HE... SAYING?
WITH THE AID OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS VIAL, DOCTOR FAUSTUS WILL COMMAND, FIRST, AMERICA-- AND THEN, THE WORLD!!
MY HEAD... FINALLY CLEARING OUT THE COBWEBS!
THAT STRANGE-SMELLING SMOKE FROM FAUSTUS'S CIGARETTE MUST'VE DONE SOMETHING TO ME!
"NOW IT'S MY TURN TO DO SOMETHING TO HIM!"
EH?
THAK!
MY ADDITIVE?!?
THAP!
...IS GOING WHERE YOU AND YOUR GOONS CAN'T POSSIBLY REACH IT, DOC!
SPIDER-MAN?!? SOMEHOW, HE'S BROKEN MY HYPNOTIC SPELL!
QUICKLY, YOU FOOLS-- STOP HIM!!
THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS AT STAKE HERE!!

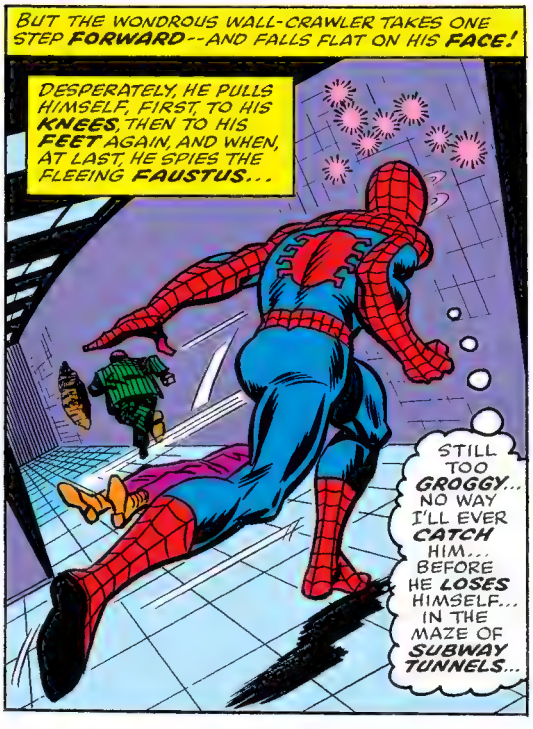

YOU WANT HIM STOPPED, BOSS-- YOU GOT IT!
YOU'RE KIDDING!
I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S KIDDIN', YA WALL-CRAWLING...
HUH?
Y'KNOW, YOU JOKERS TRULY AMAZE ME!
POW!
IF YOU COULDN'T BEAT ME EARLIER TONIGHT*--
--WHAT IN HEAVEN'S NAME MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN DO IT NOW?
UUNNGGHH!!
'CAUSE YA STILL HAVE TA BE GROGGY FROM THE BOSS'S SCREWY SMOKE-GAS, WISE-GUY...
...THAT'S WHAT!
OH.
*LAST ISSUE OUR TIME. --LEN.
WELL, I HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU, CHUCKLES--
--BUT YOUR BRIGHT-EYED BOSS MADE ONE TEENSY-WEENSY MISTAKE WITH THAT SMOKE OF HIS!
HEY! NO-- DON'T--!!
HE STOOD ME UNDER THE VENTS WHICH KEEP THE AIR IN THIS CHAMBER PURE!
KRASH

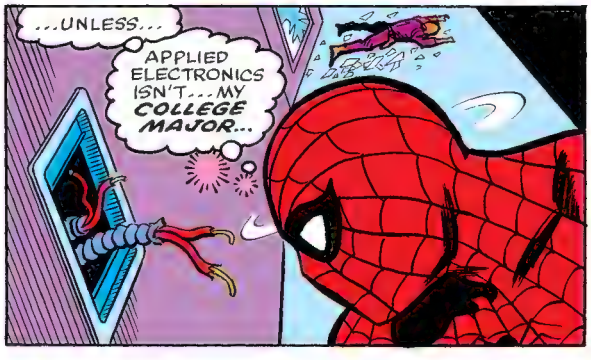
THE VACUUM PUMPS IN THE CEILING SUCKED UP THE DOC'S DRUGGED FUMES--
WHOK
AT LEAST THAT WAY YOU HAD SOME SMALL HOPE OF REMAINING ALIVE!
AARRHH-- MY HAND!!
YOU SHOULD HAVE REMAINED UNDER MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL, FOOL!
--AND GAVE ME A CHANCE TO CLEAR MY...
UUNNHH!!
STOMP!
A SURPRISINGLY INEFFECTUAL BLOW, MY FRIEND!
PAK!
IF IT WASN'T FOR MY SPIDER-STRENGTH, HE'D HAVE CRUSHED IT... BUT THE PAIN... IS STILL... EXCRUCIATING!
GOT TO... GET HIM... OFF OF ME!!
THE AGONY YOU CERTAINLY ARE SUFFERING SEEMS TO HAVE SAPPED YOUR MUCH-VAUNTED POWER--
--BUT I, ON THE OTHER HAND, AM UNDER NO SUCH HANDICAP!!
UUNGGHH!!

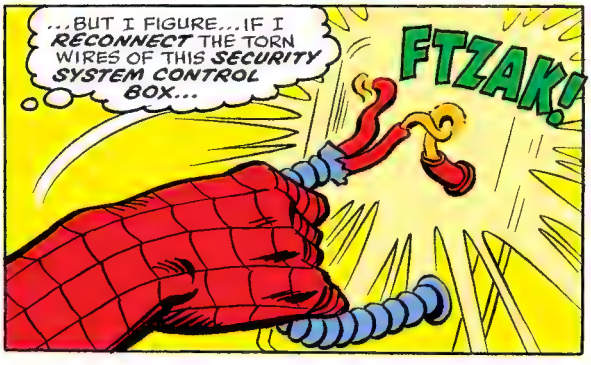

THAT MAY JUST BE THE WORST UNINTENTIONAL PUN I'VE EVER HEARD, FAUSTUS!
BWOK!
YOU'RE STILL--OONNEF--BATTLING FAR BELOW PAR, WALL-CRAWLER--AND THAT WILL PROVE THE DEATH OF YOU!
UUHHNN! THAT WAS... STUPID, WEBHEAD! YOU SHOULD'VE USED... THE OTHER HAND!
WHAT--?!?
--AWAITING THE MOST PSYCHOLOGICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS MOMENT TO STRIKE!!
MERELY MY FAITHFUL UNDERLINGS, SPIDER-MAN--
RIGHT, I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN--!
WHUDD!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE WORLD'S GREATEST PSYCHOLOGIST, AREN'T YOU?
WELL, MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME WITH A LITTLE PROBLEM THEN, DOC.
Y'SEE, EVERY NOW AND THEN, I GET THIS DISTINCT FEELING CERTAIN PEOPLE DON'T LIKE ME!
IT IS NOT WISE TO MOCK MY TALENTS, WEB-SLINGER!
MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE HUMAN MIND-- THE COMPULSIVE QUALITY OF MY PERFECTLY-MODULATED VOICE--STILL MAKE ME YOUR MASTER!!
LOSING YOUR TEMPER, DOC? FOR SHAME! THAT'S NOT EXACTLY GONNA DO WONDERS FOR YOUR REPUTATION, Y'KNOW.
NOW GET OUT OF MY WAY!!

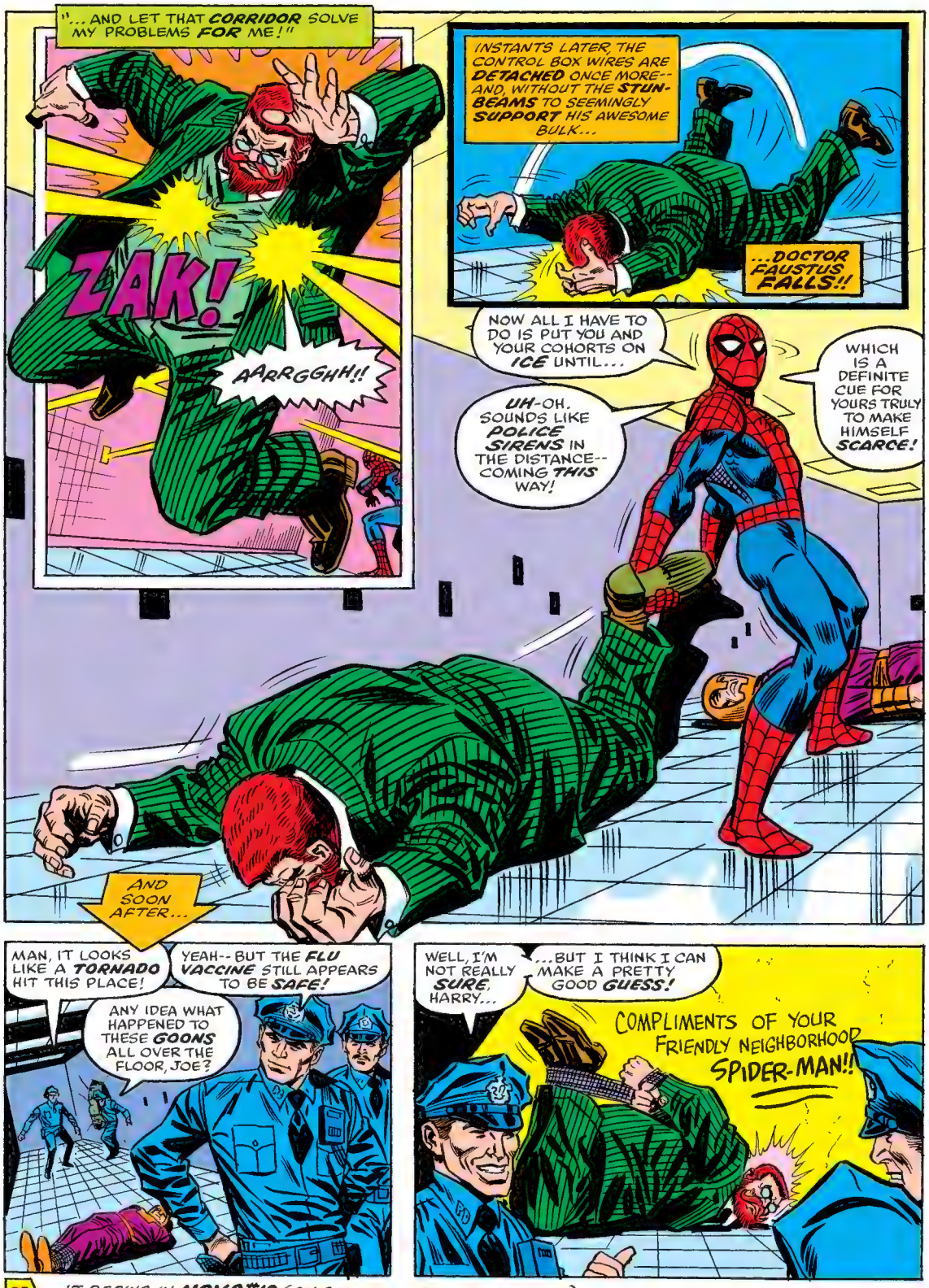

NOW WHAT SAY YOU SURRENDER LIKE A NICE LITTLE SHRINK SO WE CAN...
HEY!!
FOOL! MY FIT OF PIQUE WAS MERELY A RUSE--
--A PLOY WHICH ENABLED ME TO COME CLOSE ENOUGH TO YOU TO USE MY HYPNOTIC SMOKE ONCE MORE!!


CRIPES! CAUGHT THAT ENTIRE GAS-BLAST FULL IN THE FACE--!
MY HEAD...REELING AGAIN! CAN HARDLY... SEE STRAIGHT...
...BUT I CAN'T... LET FAUSTUS... GET AWAY...!


BUT THE WONDROUS WALL-CRAWLER TAKES ONE STEP FORWARD--AND FALLS FLAT ON HIS FACE!
DESPERATELY, HE PULLS HIMSELF, FIRST, TO HIS KNEES, THEN TO HIS FEET AGAIN, AND WHEN, AT LAST, HE SPIES THE FLEEING FAUSTUS...
STILL TOO GROGGY... NO WAY I'LL EVER CATCH HIM... BEFORE HE LOSES HIMSELF... IN THE MAZE OF SUBWAY TUNNELS...


...UNLESS...
APPLIED ELECTRONICS ISN'T...MY COLLEGE MAJOR...

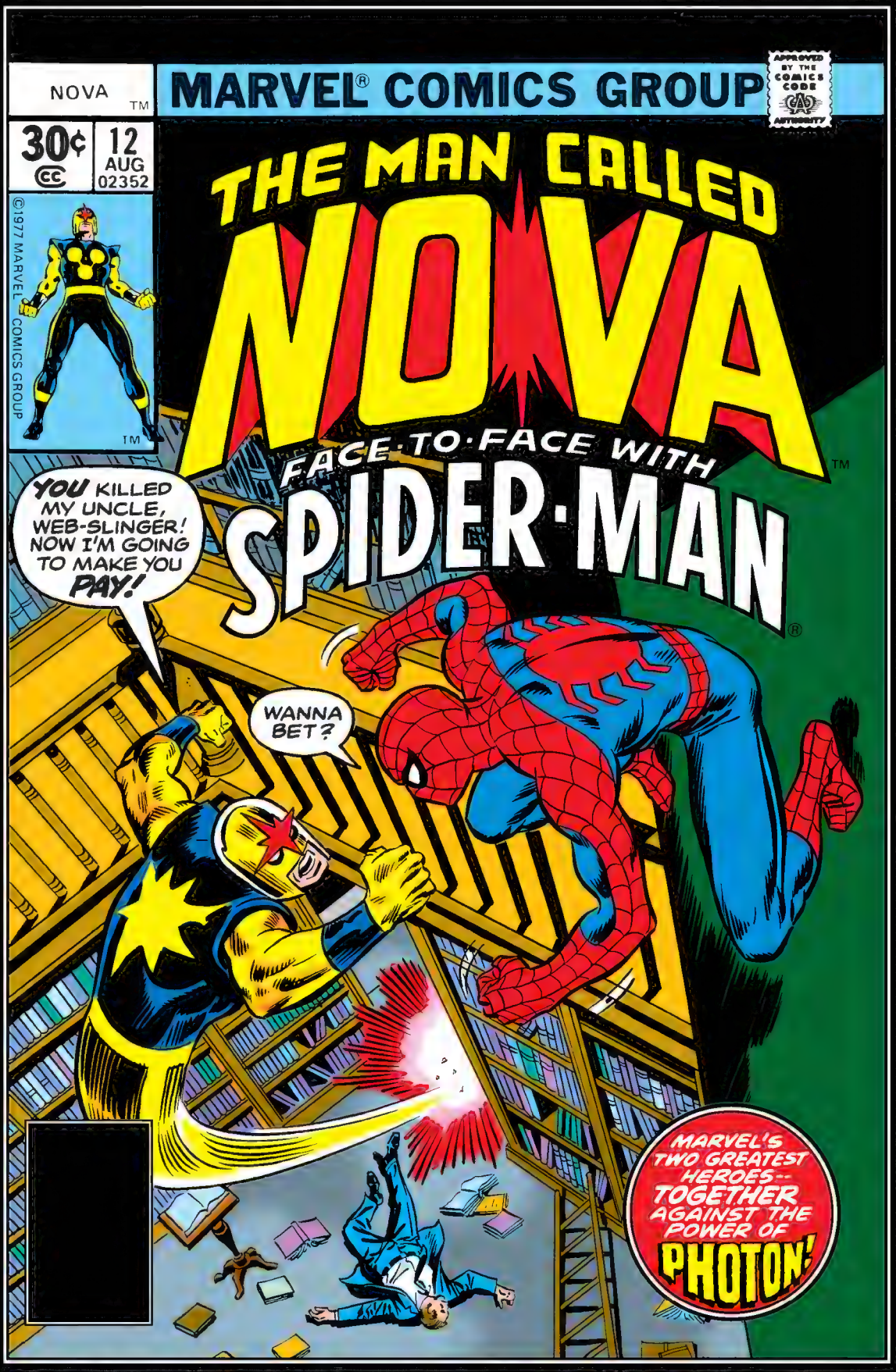

...BUT I FIGURE...IF I RECONNECT THE TORN WIRES OF THIS SECURITY SYSTEM CONTROL BOX...
FTZAK!


"...AND LET THAT CORRIDOR SOLVE MY PROBLEMS FOR ME!"
ZAK!
AARRGGHH!!
INSTANTS LATER, THE CONTROL BOX WIRES ARE DETACHED ONCE MORE--AND, WITHOUT THE STUN-BEAMS TO SEEMINGLY SUPPORT HIS AWESOME BULK...
...DOCTOR FAUSTUS FALLS!!
NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PUT YOU AND YOUR COHORTS ON ICE UNTIL...
UH-OH. SOUNDS LIKE POLICE SIRENS IN THE DISTANCE--COMING THIS WAY!
WHICH IS A DEFINITE CUE FOR YOURS TRULY TO MAKE HIMSELF SCARCE!
AND SOON AFTER...
MAN, IT LOOKS LIKE A TORNADO HIT THIS PLACE!
YEAH--BUT THE FLU VACCINE STILL APPEARS TO BE SAFE!
ANY IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO THESE GOONS ALL OVER THE FLOOR, JOE?
WELL, I'M NOT REALLY SURE, HARRY...
...BUT I THINK I CAN MAKE A PRETTY GOOD GUESS!
COMPLIMENTS OF YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!!

NEXT

IT BEGINS IN **NOVA #12** (ON SALE IN JUST A FEW WEEKS) AS SPIDEY MEETS MARVEL'S NEWEST **SUPER-STAR**--AND IT CONCLUDES **HERE** NEXT ISSUE AS WEBHEAD AND BULLETHEAD TRY TO SOLVE THE MOST BAFFLING MYSTERY OF ALL! REMEMBER, FIRST IT'S **NOVA #12**, AND THEN BACK HERE FOR...

"PHOTON IS ANOTHER NAME FOR...?" 'NUFF SAID!


NOVA ™
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
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12 AUG 02352
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THE MAN CALLED NOVA ™
FACE-TO-FACE WITH SPIDER-MAN®
YOU KILLED MY UNCLE, WEB-SLINGER! NOW I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU PAY!
WANNA BET?
MARVEL'S TWO GREATEST HEROES-- TOGETHER AGAINST THE POWER OF PHOTON!

When Richard Rider, teenager, was blasted by a lightbolt from beyond the stars, he suddenly found himself transformed into one of the most powerful men on Earth. Invulnerable, able to fly at Nova-Speed, stronger than any ten men, the young High School student donned the costume of his Alien benefactor to become a Champion of Justice!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE MAN CALLED NOVA!™

MARV WOLFMAN / WRITER / EDITOR | SAL BUSCEMA & FRANK GIACOIA / ARTISTS | JOE ROSEN / LETTERER | GLYNIS WEIN / COLORIST

YOUR CHANCE TO GUESS ALONG IN A SPECIAL MIGHTY MARVEL MYSTERY!

SPIDER-MAN MEETS NOVA

...AND TOGETHER THEY TRY TO DISCOVER WHO IS--

THE MAN CALLED PHOTON?

THIS IS THE KILLER. BUT IS HE ALSO--

HARRY DAZE

JASON DEAN

MICHAEL LINCOLN

PETER PARKER

FRANKLIN RISK

DECEMBER

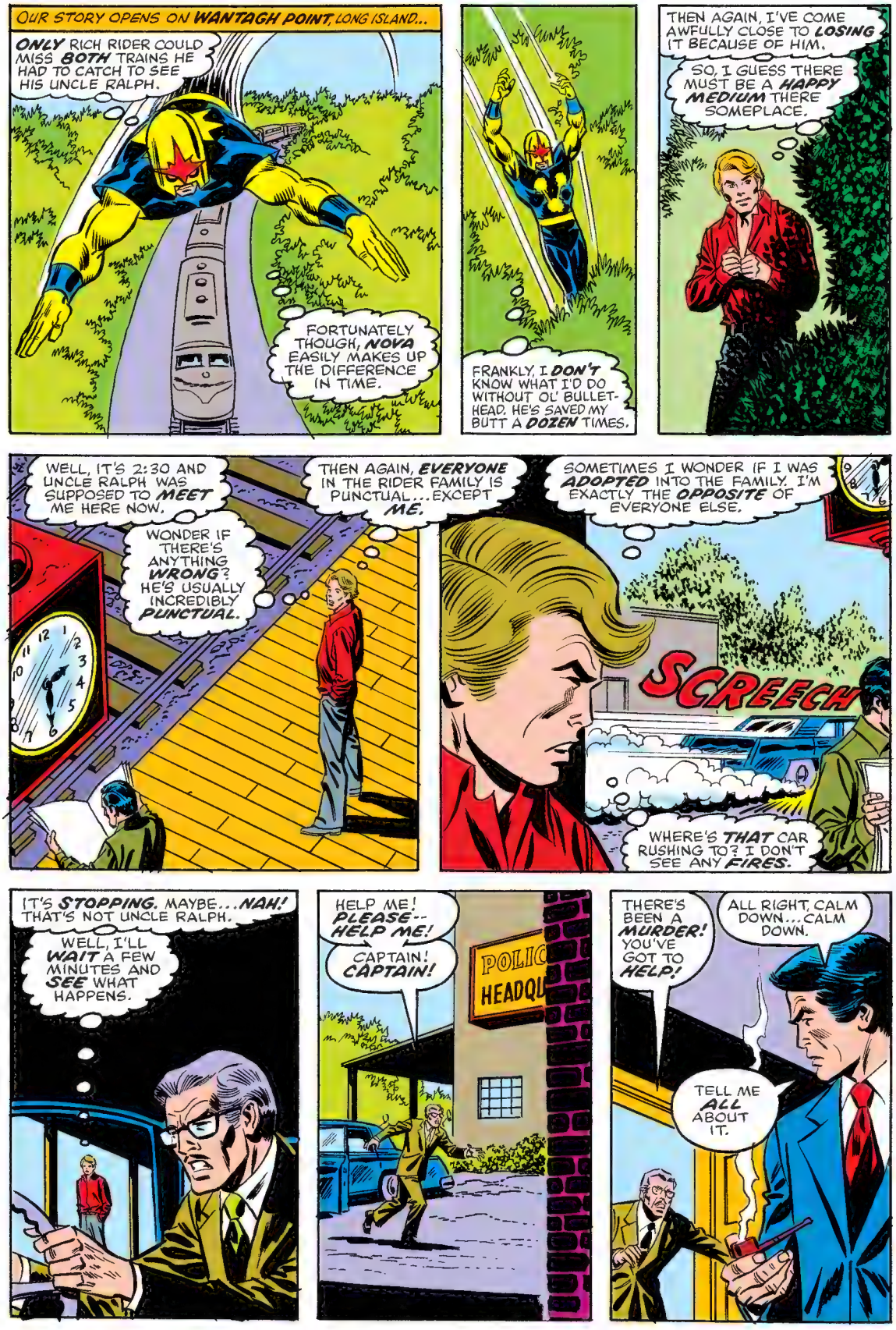
NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

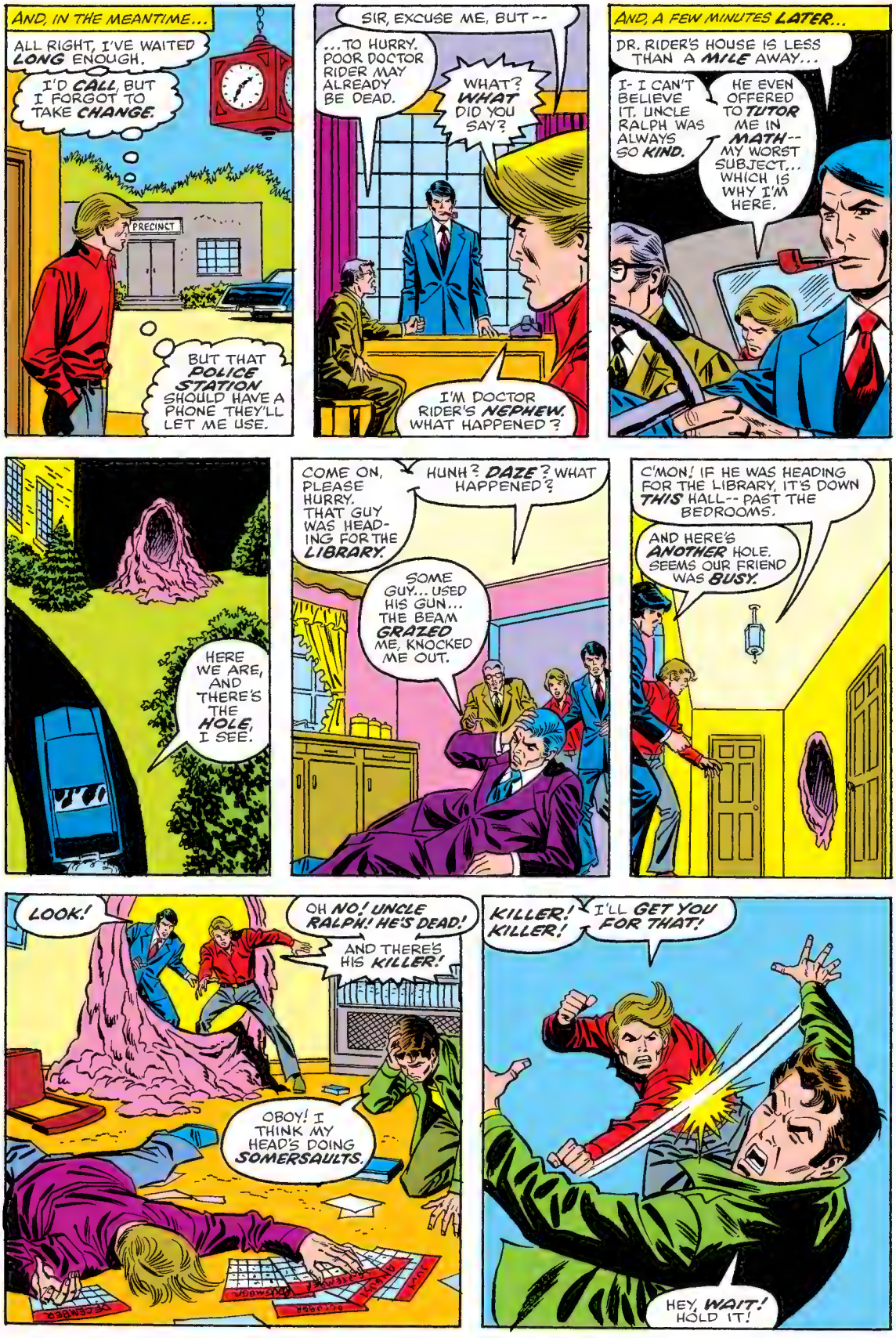
SEPTEMBER

AUGUST

JULY


OUR STORY OPENS ON WANTAGH POINT, LONG ISLAND...
ONLY RICH RIDER COULD MISS BOTH TRAINS HE HAD TO CATCH TO SEE HIS UNCLE RALPH.
FORTUNATELY THOUGH, NOVA EASILY MAKES UP THE DIFFERENCE IN TIME.
FRANKLY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT OL' BULLET-HEAD. HE'S SAVED MY BUTT A DOZEN TIMES.
THEN AGAIN, I'VE COME AWFULLY CLOSE TO LOSING IT BECAUSE OF HIM.
SO, I GUESS THERE MUST BE A HAPPY MEDIUM THERE SOMEPLACE.
WELL, IT'S 2:30 AND UNCLE RALPH WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET ME HERE NOW.
WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG? HE'S USUALLY INCREDIBLY PUNCTUAL.
THEN AGAIN, EVERYONE IN THE RIDER FAMILY IS PUNCTUAL...EXCEPT ME.
SOMETIMES I WONDER IF I WAS ADOPTED INTO THE FAMILY. I'M EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE OF EVERYONE ELSE.
SCREECH
WHERE'S THAT CAR RUSHING TO? I DON'T SEE ANY FIRES.
IT'S STOPPING. MAYBE...NAH! THAT'S NOT UNCLE RALPH.
WELL, I'LL WAIT A FEW MINUTES AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
HELP ME! PLEASE--HELP ME!
CAPTAIN! CAPTAIN!
POLIC
HEADQU
THERE'S BEEN A MURDER! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP!
ALL RIGHT, CALM DOWN...CALM DOWN.
TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT.

Y-YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. I'M GOING CRAZY. THERE'S BEEN A GRISLY MURDER... AT DOCTOR RIDER'S HOUSE.
FIRST OFF, WHO ARE YOU? AND WHAT HAPPENED?
THE NAME'S JASON DEAN, I'M A BUSINESSMAN FROM CONNECTICUT.
"ANYWAY, I WAS SITTING IN DOCTOR RIDER'S LIVING ROOM, WAITING FOR HIM... HE WAS SOMEWHERE OFF IN HIS HOUSE, DOING SOMETHING OR ANOTHER.
"I WAS THERE, LIKE THE OTHERS, TO BID ON HIS LATEST INVENTION.
"ANYWAY, WHILE I WAS SITTING THERE, I HEARD A SLIGHT BUZZING SOUND. CURIOUS, I TURNED AROUND, AND I SAW THE WALL STARTING TO GLOW.
"IT-- IT BEGAN TO MELT...
"...AND THEN A MAN... A MAN DRESSED IN A BIZARRE COSTUME, CAME THROUGH THE HOLE.
I WANT RIDER! WHERE IS HE? TELL ME!
TELL ME OR I'LL DO TO YOU AS I DID TO THIS WALL!
"I PANICKED... SCREAMED.
BAH! I'LL FIND HIM MYSELF, FOOL!
"AND WITH A MERE BRUSH OF HIS HAND, HE CAST ME ASIDE AS IF I WAS A RAG DOLL!
"THEN HE TURNED AND USED A STRANGE GUN TO MELT THE FAR WALL OF THE LIVING ROOM.
"I WAS SCARED, AND I RAN, LOOKING BACK AS HE VANISHED INTO THE KITCHEN.
"I WAS OUT OF THE HOUSE A MINUTE AFTER HE GOT THERE AND I DROVE HERE AS FAST AS I COULD.
CAPTAIN, PLEASE-- YOU'VE GOT TO HURRY. POOR DOCTOR RIDER MAY ALREADY BE DEAD.

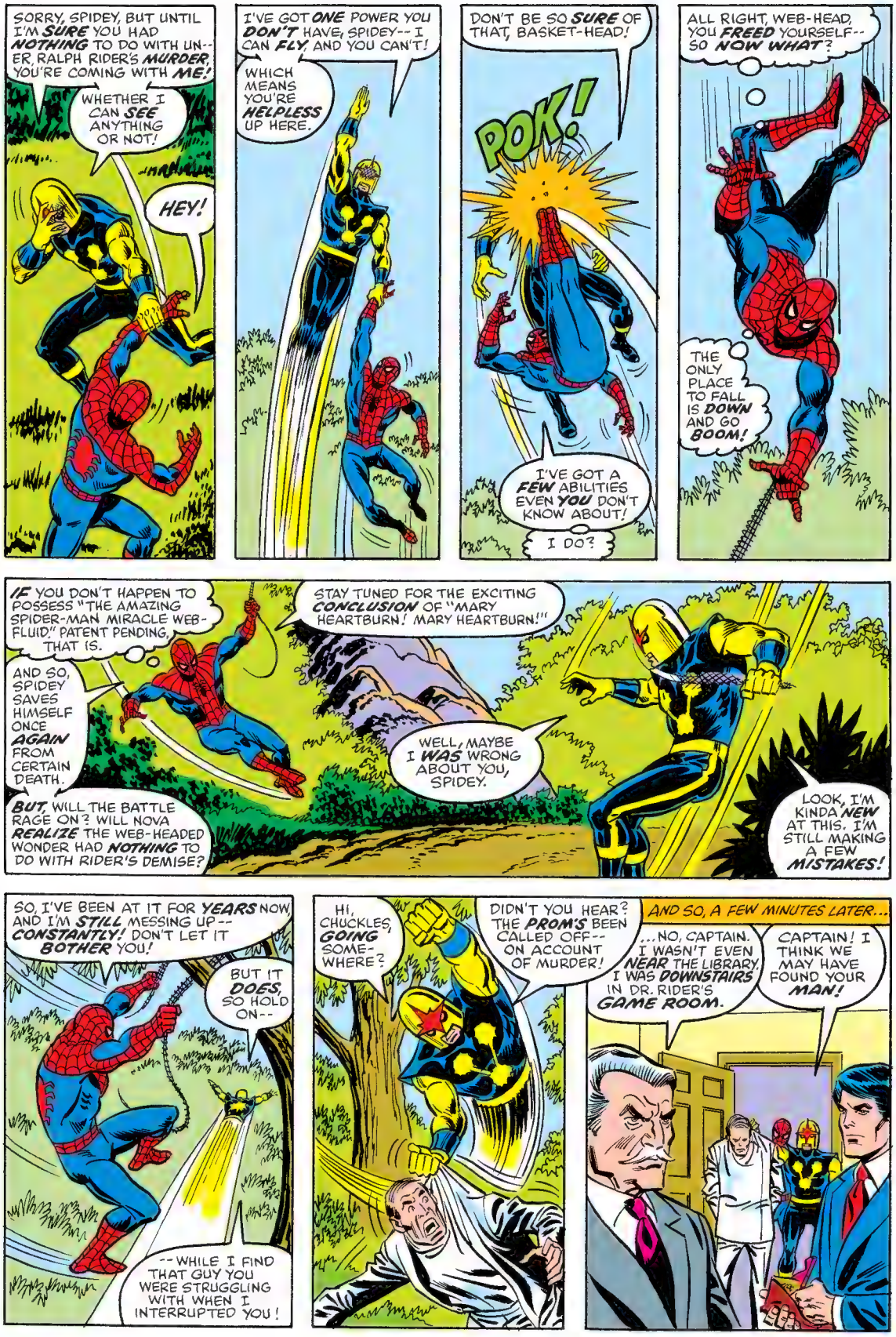

AND, IN THE MEANTIME...
ALL RIGHT, I'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH.
I'D CALL, BUT I FORGOT TO TAKE CHANGE.
PRECINCT
BUT THAT POLICE STATION SHOULD HAVE A PHONE THEY'LL LET ME USE.
SIR, EXCUSE ME, BUT --
...TO HURRY. POOR DOCTOR RIDER MAY ALREADY BE DEAD.
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I'M DOCTOR RIDER'S NEPHEW. WHAT HAPPENED?
AND, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
DR. RIDER'S HOUSE IS LESS THAN A MILE AWAY...
I- I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. UNCLE RALPH WAS ALWAYS SO KIND.
HE EVEN OFFERED TO TUTOR ME IN MATH-- MY WORST SUBJECT... WHICH IS WHY I'M HERE.
HERE WE ARE, AND THERE'S THE HOLE, I SEE.
COME ON, PLEASE HURRY. THAT GUY WAS HEADING FOR THE LIBRARY.
HUNH? DAZE? WHAT HAPPENED?
SOME GUY... USED HIS GUN... THE BEAM GRAZED ME, KNOCKED ME OUT.
C'MON! IF HE WAS HEADING FOR THE LIBRARY, IT'S DOWN THIS HALL-- PAST THE BEDROOMS.
AND HERE'S ANOTHER HOLE. SEEMS OUR FRIEND WAS BUSY.
LOOK!
OH NO! UNCLE RALPH! HE'S DEAD!
AND THERE'S HIS KILLER!
OBOY! I THINK MY HEAD'S DOING SOMERSAULTS.
KILLER! KILLER!
I'LL GET YOU FOR THAT!
HEY, WAIT! HOLD IT!

HEY, CALM DOWN, KID. I'M NO KILLER.
I WAS KNOCKED OUT, TOO.
LIKE BLAZES YOU WERE. YOU KILLED MY UNCLE RALPH. I KNOW YOU DID!
JUST HOLD ON THERE, SON. LET'S HEAR THE MAN OUT.
YOUR CRAZY FRIEND PACKS A MEAN WALLOP. THANKS FOR STOPPING HIM, MR--?
STEELE. CAPTAIN JAMES STEELE, POLICE.
OH. WELL, MY NAME'S PETER PARKER. I'M A STUDENT. IN FACT, I WAS STUDYING IN DOCTOR RIDER'S LIBRARY WHEN...
HOW'S THE REPORT COMING, PETER?
FINE. DR. CONNERS WAS RIGHT, YOU DO HAVE THE BEST PHYSICS LIBRARY ANYWHERE.
BY THE WAY, PETER, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU WERE A SUPER-HERO?
HUNH? WHAT? I-- ER...
YOUR NAME-- PETER PARKER-- CAN BE ANAGRAMMED INTO "KREE TRAPPER." AREN'T THE KREE THE ALIENS SUPER-HEROES FIGHT?
YOUR NAME CAN ALSO BE TURNED INTO "KEPT RARE REP"-- WHICH IS WHAT SECRET IDENTITIES ARE FOR, RIGHT?
ACTUALLY, PETER, CREATING ANAGRAMS ISN'T PLAYING GAMES. IT'S WHAT SCIENTISTS SHOULD ALWAYS DO. YOU SEE THINGS INSIDE AND OUT, FRONT, BACK, AND SIDEWAYS.
IT'S AN EXERCISE TO KEEP YOUR MIND ALERT AND FRESH, AND-- EH?
DOCTOR-- YOUR WALL...
THERE YOU ARE, RIDER. I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOU.
AND THAT MEANS NOW IT IS TIME YOU DIE!
AND PHOTON WILL BE YOUR KILLER!
DOC-- RUN! I'LL STOP THIS LOONIE!
CAN'T MAKE IT SEEM TOO EASY. DON'T WANT TO GIVE AWAY THE FACT I'M SPIDER-MAN!
NICE TRY, PUNK. A SHAME IT WAS SUCH A WASTED ATTEMPT!
ZWIT!
AND THAT WAS IT. HIS PHOTON BEAM HIT ME AND I COLLAPSED LIKE A HOUSE OF CARDS!
I'M NOT SURE. I STILL THINK HE'S COVERING UP SOMETHING.

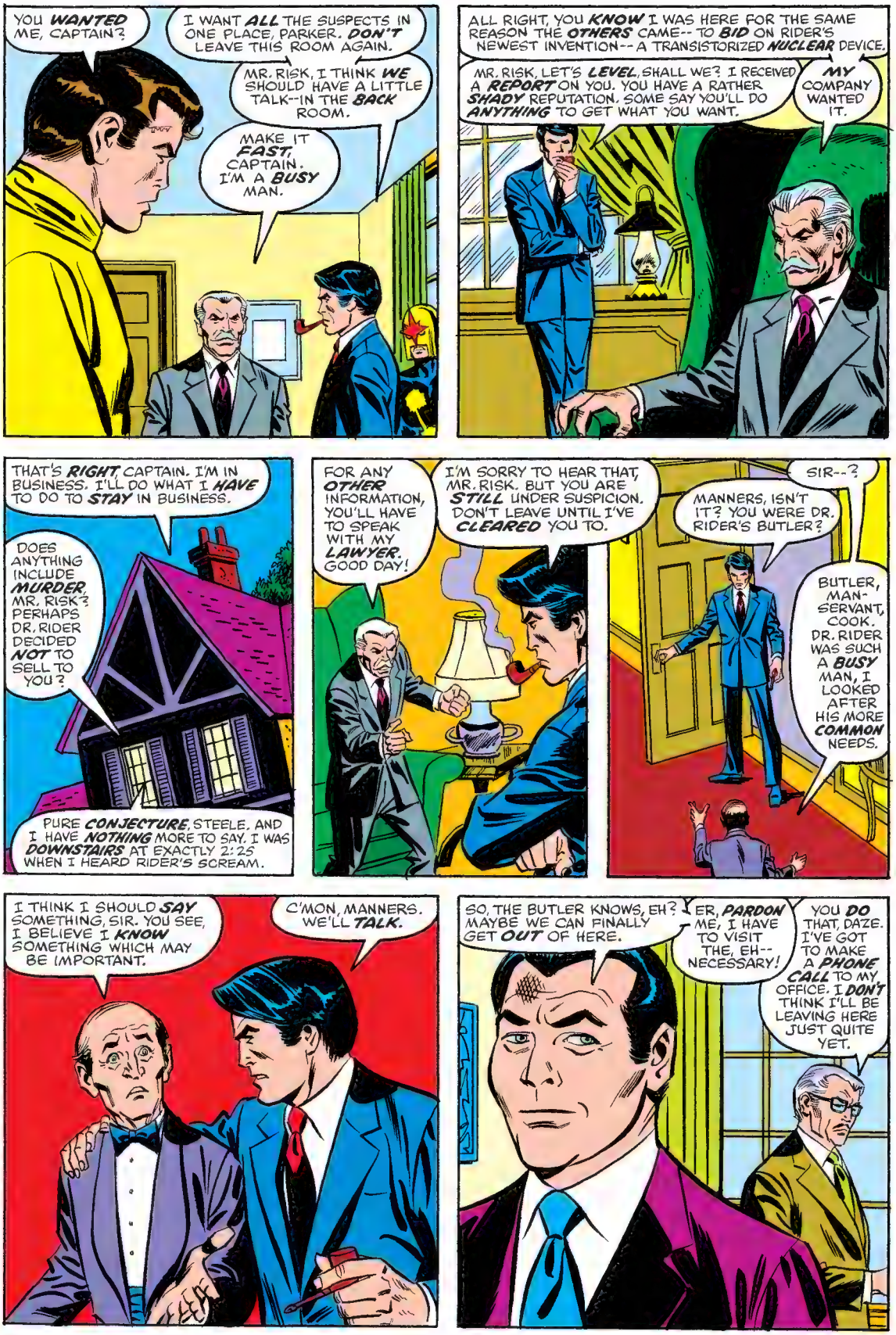
DON'T BE HASTY, SON. LOOK AT THAT CUT ON HIS FOREHEAD.
YOU LOOK AT IT, CAPTAIN. I'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE TO DO.
NAMELY, FIGURING OUT HOW TO BREAK THE NEWS TO DAD.
ON TOP OF EVERYTHING ELSE THAT'S BEEN DUMPED ON HIM LATELY.
DAD? IT'S ME, RICH.
DAD, THERE'S SOMETHING BAD I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU.
WHAT? I--I... UNDERSTAND.
PLEASE, STAY THERE, RICH. I'LL BE OVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
AND, AS RICH RIDER RETURNS TO THE OTHERS A FEW MINUTES LATER...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW, MR. DAZE?
I-I DON'T KNOW, CAPTAIN STEELE. THAT MANIAC RAN IN HERE AND USED HIS WEIRD GUN ON ME.
I'M STILL A LITTLE DAZED, PARDON THE PUN-- FROM HIS RAY-BLAST.
BY THE WAY, CALL ME HAPPY. HAPPY DAZE. EVERYONE DOES.
I'M NOT NEEDED THERE, BESIDES, I THINK IT'S TIME RICH RIDER WAS REPLACED BY MY LITTLE ROCKET-HEADED FRIEND.
NOVA'S ON THE PROWL AGAIN!
NO SIGN THAT ANYONE CAME THIS WAY-- EXCEPT CAPTAIN STEELE'S CAR... AND THIS IS THE ONLY ACCESS ROAD TO UNCLE RALPH'S HOUSE.
THAT PROBABLY MEANS THE KILLER HASN'T LEFT THE HOUSE, YET.
AND THAT MEANS MY ACCUSING FINGER STILL POINTS TO THAT PARKER KID.
30 MPH
THERE'S SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS ABOUT HIM. AND SO HELP ME, I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS-- IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO.
AND THAT SUSPICION JUST MAY BE THE REASON WHY THE "MYSTERIOUS" PETER PARKER IS ABOUT TO VANISH. THEN AGAIN, IT MAY NOT.
SOMETHING DEFINITELY SCREWY IS GOING ON HERE, AND I THINK PETE HAD BETTER FADE FOR THE PRESENT.
THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE ADEPT AT HANDLING MAYHEM AND MURDERERS.

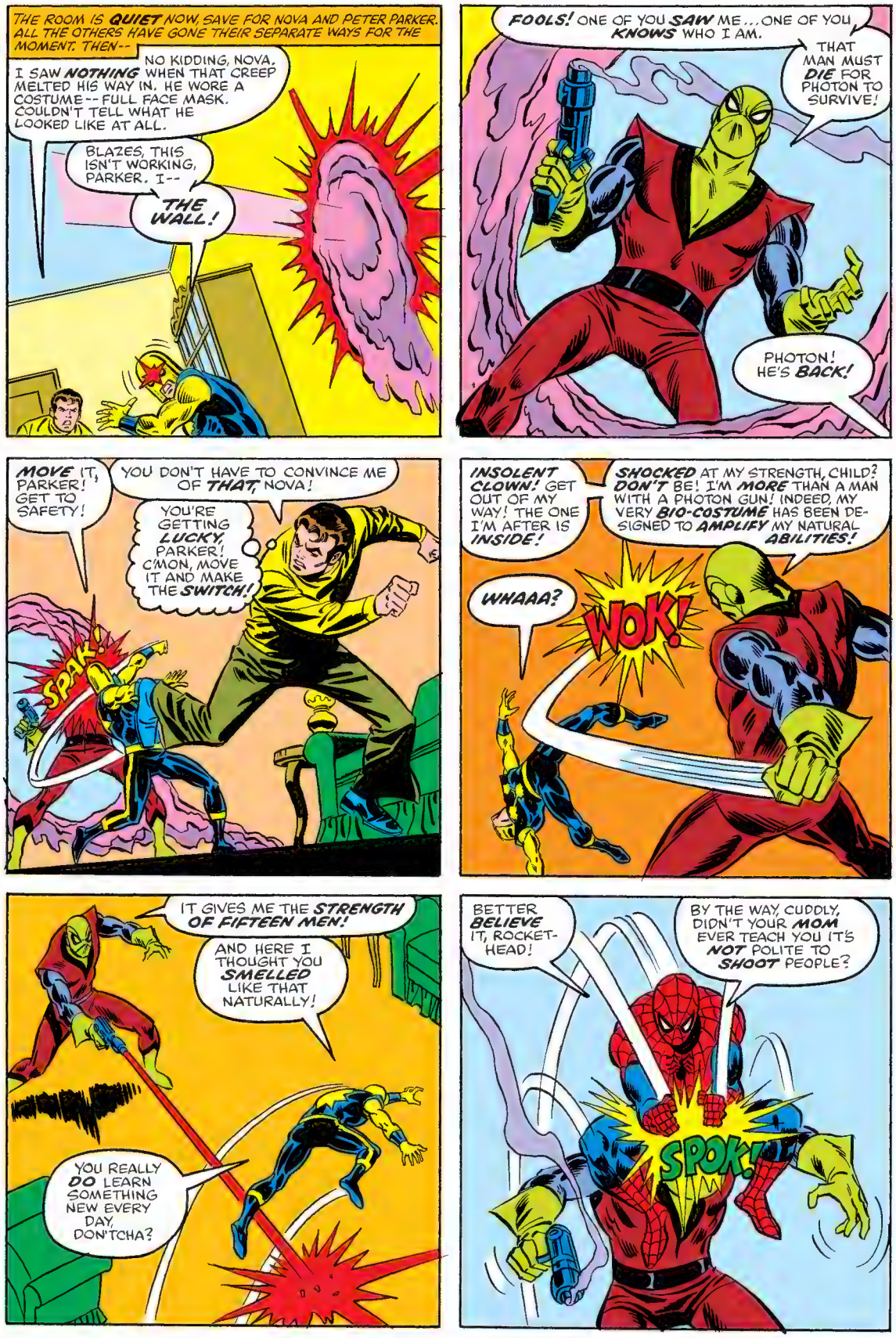
NAMELY EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE WALL-CRAWLER... SPIDER-MAN!
AH, WHO AM I KIDDING? BUT THEN, "NOBODY'S FAVORITE WALL-CRAWLER" JUST DOESN'T HAVE THAT SPECIAL LILT I'M LOOKING FOR.
ALL RIGHT, HERO, TIME TO COMB THIS AREA WITH YOUR FABLED SPIDEY-SENSE, AND TO FIND OUT WHO'S BEEN NAUGHTY AND NICE!
AH HA! SOMEONE RUNNING...FLEEING, IT SEEMS. I THINK KOJAK WOULD DEFINITELY CALL THAT A-ONE SUSPICIOUS!
HIYA, BUDDY. WANNA MAKE A DONATION TO MY FAVORITE CHARITY?
NAMELY, THE "WHO-KILLED-DOCTOR-RIDER, FUND."
SPIDER-MAN?
THAT'S THE NAME, CHUCKLES. DON'T WEAR IT OUT!
I'VE GOT NOTHING TO SAY, MASKED MAN. ESPECIALLY TO A PUNK LIKE YOU!
WHAA? MY SPIDER-SENSES WARNED ME HE WAS GONNA DO THAT--
SPOK
--BUT WHO THE HECK COULD'VE GUESSED HE'D BE THAT STRONG?
YOU'RE JUST LIKE RIDER, CREEP! TRYING TO PUSH ME AROUND! TRYING TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO!
BUT NOW HE'S DEAD, AND I'M GLAD!
CUDDLES, ANYONE EVER TELL YOU YOU'RE A CERTIFIABLE LOONIE?
SWAK!

SO IT'S BACK TO UNCLE RALPH'S TO CHECK ON EVERYONE THERE. ONE OF THOSE--
HUNH? SOMETHING GOING ON BELOW ME. SOUNDS LIKE A SCUFFLE!
BLUE BLAZES! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
NOW I'M REALLY CONFUSED.
THE DAILY BUGLE'S ALWAYS PAINTED SPIDEY AS A VILLAIN, BUT SOME PEOPLE SAY HE'S REALLY A HERO!
NOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE!
ONLY THAT I'D BETTER STOP 'IM-- JUST IN CASE HE'S THE GUY WHO MURDERED MY UNCLE. WHY ELSE WOULD HE BE HERE, ANYWAY?
SOMETHING COMING UP BEHIND ME-- FAST! CAN'T--
UNGGHHH!
PHOTON!? NO-- YOU'RE THAT NEW KID... NOVA!
I SAW YOUR PIC IN THE BUGLE LAST WEEK!
AND I'VE SEEN YOUR MUG THERE A FEW TIMES MYSELF, WEB-SLINGER!
AND THERE'S ALWAYS A "WANTED FOR QUESTIONING" TAG-LINE BELOW IT.
OH NO! NOT ANOTHER GUY OUT TO COLLECT JAMESON'S REWARD ON ME!
C'MON, WHY DON'T YOU GUYS LEAVE ME ALONE?!
THERE'S GOTTA BE A DOZEN HONEST BADDIES OUT THERE TO KEEP YOU PEOPLE OUT OF MY HAIR!
MY EYES! YOU COVERED MY LENSES WITH YOUR WEBS!
SAY, YOU'RE REALLY INTELLIGENT, JET-HEAD!
YOU MUST BE A WHIZ IN YOUR KINDERGARTEN CLASS!
PAK!
SO MAYBE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN I SAY THIS: QUIT HOUNDING ME! THERE'S A REAL MURDERER LOOSE AROUND HERE!

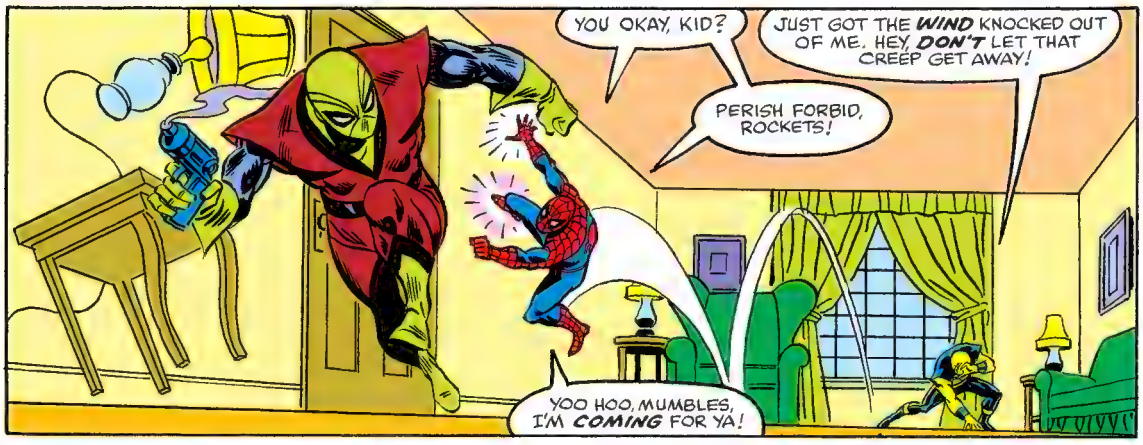

SORRY, SPIDEY, BUT UNTIL I'M SURE YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH UNDER, RALPH RIDER'S MURDER, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!
WHETHER I CAN SEE ANYTHING OR NOT!
HEY!
I'VE GOT ONE POWER YOU DON'T HAVE, SPIDEY-- I CAN FLY, AND YOU CAN'T!
WHICH MEANS YOU'RE HELPLESS UP HERE.
DON'T BE SO SURE OF THAT, BASKET-HEAD!
POK!
I'VE GOT A FEW ABILITIES EVEN YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT!
I DO?
ALL RIGHT, WEB-HEAD, YOU FREED YOURSELF-- SO NOW WHAT?
THE ONLY PLACE TO FALL IS DOWN AND GO BOOM!
IF YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO POSSESS "THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN MIRACLE WEB-FLUID," PATENT PENDING, THAT IS.
AND SO, SPIDEY SAVES HIMSELF ONCE AGAIN FROM CERTAIN DEATH.
BUT, WILL THE BATTLE RAGE ON? WILL NOVA REALIZE THE WEB-HEADED WONDER HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH RIDER'S DEMISE?
STAY TUNED FOR THE EXCITING CONCLUSION OF "MARY HEARTBURN! MARY HEARTBURN!"
WELL, MAYBE I WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU, SPIDEY.
LOOK, I'M KINDA NEW AT THIS. I'M STILL MAKING A FEW MISTAKES!
SO, I'VE BEEN AT IT FOR YEARS NOW AND I'M STILL MESSING UP-- CONSTANTLY! DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU!
BUT IT DOES, SO HOLD ON--
--WHILE I FIND THAT GUY YOU WERE STRUGGLING WITH WHEN I INTERRUPTED YOU!
HI, CHUCKLES, GOING SOMEWHERE?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR? THE PROM'S BEEN CALLED OFF-- ON ACCOUNT OF MURDER!
AND SO, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
...NO, CAPTAIN. I WASN'T EVEN NEAR THE LIBRARY. I WAS DOWNSTAIRS IN DR. RIDER'S GAME ROOM.
CAPTAIN! I THINK WE MAY HAVE FOUND YOUR MAN!

THIS CREEP WAS RUNNING FROM THE HOUSE LIKE HIS TAIL WAS ON FIRE!
OH NO! I THOUGHT WE WERE SAFE FROM YOU COSTUMED FREAKS OUT HERE, AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO STAY IN THE CITY?
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE, CAPTAIN. A COP WHO APPRECIATES A LITTLE HELP.
BUT SINCE YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR FROM US, WE'LL LET CHUCKLES TALK.
C'MON, HANDSOME, IT'S NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL-NUMBER TIME!
YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU BUTTED IN ON MY AFFAIRS, CREEP! I PROMISE YOU THAT!
CAPTAIN, I'M MICHAEL LINCOLN-- THE MAN WHO MADE RIDER!
I WAS HIS LAB ASSISTANT, BEEN SO FOR TWO YEARS. ONLY HE NEVER ACKNOWLEDGED MY TRUE VALUE!
NOW HE'S DEAD, AND I'M GLAD!
ISN'T THAT A WRAP, CAPTAIN? HE CONFESSED, DIDN'T HE?
NO HE DIDN'T, KID. NOW, KEEP OUT OF THIS.
HEY, WAIT! I HATED RIDER. BUT I DIDN'T KILL HIM!
DON'T PUT THAT RAP ON ME, MAN. I'M INNOCENT!
YEAH, LIKE A LAMB. SURE.
LISTEN, LINCOLN. I KNOW ABOUT DR. RIDER-- HE WAS ONE OF OUR TOP RESEARCH SCIENTISTS LONG BEFORE YOU CAME ONTO THE SCENE.
DON'T TRY TO DRAG HIM DOWN TO YOUR LEVEL.
THIS IS GETTING US NOWHERE!
SAY, WHERE'S THAT PARKER KID? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR AWHILE.
I DID, JUST AS WE WERE ENTERING. I'LL GET HIM, CAPTAIN.
WHEW.


YOU WANTED ME, CAPTAIN?
I WANT ALL THE SUSPECTS IN ONE PLACE, PARKER. DON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM AGAIN.
MR. RISK, I THINK WE SHOULD HAVE A LITTLE TALK--IN THE BACK ROOM.
MAKE IT FAST, CAPTAIN. I'M A BUSY MAN.
ALL RIGHT, YOU KNOW I WAS HERE FOR THE SAME REASON THE OTHERS CAME-- TO BID ON RIDER'S NEWEST INVENTION-- A TRANSISTORIZED NUCLEAR DEVICE.
MR. RISK, LET'S LEVEL, SHALL WE? I RECEIVED A REPORT ON YOU. YOU HAVE A RATHER SHADY REPUTATION. SOME SAY YOU'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET WHAT YOU WANT.
MY COMPANY WANTED IT.
THAT'S RIGHT, CAPTAIN. I'M IN BUSINESS. I'LL DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO TO STAY IN BUSINESS.
DOES ANYTHING INCLUDE MURDER, MR. RISK? PERHAPS DR. RIDER DECIDED NOT TO SELL TO YOU?
PURE CONJECTURE, STEELE, AND I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY. I WAS DOWNSTAIRS AT EXACTLY 2:25 WHEN I HEARD RIDER'S SCREAM.
FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION, YOU'LL HAVE TO SPEAK WITH MY LAWYER. GOOD DAY!
I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT, MR. RISK. BUT YOU ARE STILL UNDER SUSPICION. DON'T LEAVE UNTIL I'VE CLEARED YOU TO.
SIR--?
MANNERS, ISN'T IT? YOU WERE DR. RIDER'S BUTLER?
BUTLER, MAN-SERVANT, COOK. DR. RIDER WAS SUCH A BUSY MAN, I LOOKED AFTER HIS MORE COMMON NEEDS.
I THINK I SHOULD SAY SOMETHING, SIR. YOU SEE, I BELIEVE I KNOW SOMETHING WHICH MAY BE IMPORTANT.
C'MON, MANNERS. WE'LL TALK.
SO, THE BUTLER KNOWS, EH? MAYBE WE CAN FINALLY GET OUT OF HERE.
ER, PARDON ME, I HAVE TO VISIT THE, EH-- NECESSARY!
YOU DO THAT, DAZE. I'VE GOT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL TO MY OFFICE. I DON'T THINK I'LL BE LEAVING HERE JUST QUITE YET.


THE ROOM IS QUIET NOW, SAVE FOR NOVA AND PETER PARKER. ALL THE OTHERS HAVE GONE THEIR SEPARATE WAYS FOR THE MOMENT. THEN--
NO KIDDING, NOVA. I SAW NOTHING WHEN THAT CREEP MELTED HIS WAY IN. HE WORE A COSTUME-- FULL FACE MASK. COULDN'T TELL WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE AT ALL.
BLAZES, THIS ISN'T WORKING, PARKER. I--
THE WALL!
FOOLS! ONE OF YOU SAW ME... ONE OF YOU KNOWS WHO I AM.
THAT MAN MUST DIE FOR PHOTON TO SURVIVE!
PHOTON! HE'S BACK!
MOVE IT, PARKER! GET TO SAFETY!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CONVINCE ME OF THAT, NOVA!
YOU'RE GETTING LUCKY, PARKER! C'MON, MOVE IT AND MAKE THE SWITCH!
SPAK!
INSOLENT CLOWN! GET OUT OF MY WAY! THE ONE I'M AFTER IS INSIDE!
SHOCKED AT MY STRENGTH, CHILD? DON'T BE! I'M MORE THAN A MAN WITH A PHOTON GUN! INDEED, MY VERY BIO-COSTUME HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO AMPLIFY MY NATURAL ABILITIES!
WHAAA?
WOK!
IT GIVES ME THE STRENGTH OF FIFTEEN MEN!
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU SMELLED LIKE THAT NATURALLY!
YOU REALLY DO LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY, DON'TCHA?
BETTER BELIEVE IT, ROCKET-HEAD!
BY THE WAY, CUDDLY, DIDN'T YOUR MOM EVER TEACH YOU IT'S NOT POLITE TO SHOOT PEOPLE?
SPOK!

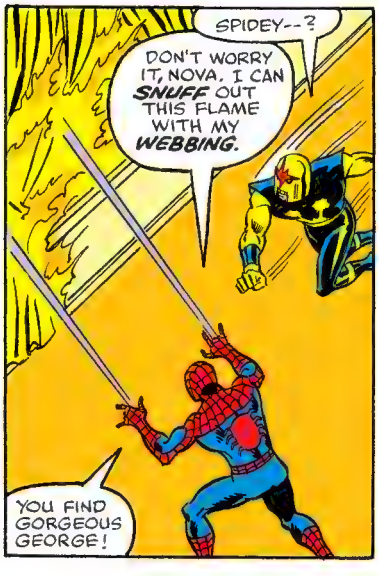
CRETIN! I HAVEN'T THE TIME FOR YOU FOOLS!
NOT WHEN MY SECRET MAY BE REVEALED AT ANY TIME!
YYIPPES!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT... HE SHRUGGED ME OFF LIKE I WAS AN INSECT!
MEAN-WHILE...
...ANYWAY, SIR, AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT DOCTOR RIDER TOLD ME. HE MADE A FEW CHECKS INTO THESE PEOPLE.
BUT YOU SAID YOU SAW SOMETHING?
ACTUALLY, I HEARD SOMETHING, SIR. AFTER THE PARKER BOY HAD BEEN SHOT, PHOTON SPOKE AND SAID SOMETHING, THEN A MOMENT AGO, SOMEONE OUT THERE SAID THE SAME EXACT THING.
AND, DIRECTLY OUTSIDE THE ROOM...
IT'S TOO LATE, PUNK. THAT FOOL BUTLER WILL BE DEAD BEFORE YOU CAN STOP ME.
AND WHATEVER HE KNOWS WILL DIE WITH HIM!
UH UH, SMILEY. NO ONE'S GONNA BE KILLED WHILE I'M AROUND!
SPOP
BESIDES, YOU ALREADY PLAYED OUT YOUR LITTLE MAYHEM WITH RALPH RIDER.
BTOK
KNOW SOMETHIN', NOVEY? I LIKE YOUR STYLE!
KRAK
COMING FROM YOU, WEB-HEAD-- THAT'S A COMPLIMENT! I THINK.
WHILE YOU FOOLS WASTE YOUR TIME CONGRATU-LATING EACH OTHER--
--IT'S TIME FOR PHOTON TO ESCAPE!
YEEOOWW!
NOVA!
ZWIT!


YOU OKAY, KID?
JUST GOT THE WIND KNOCKED OUT OF ME. HEY, DON'T LET THAT CREEP GET AWAY!
PERISH FORBID, ROCKETS!
YOO HOO, MUMBLES, I'M COMING FOR YA!

CORRECTION: I'VE GOT YOU!
THAT'S FOR NOT SAYING BYE-BYE BEFORE YOU LEFT, HANDSOME!
WHUP

YOUR RIDICULOUS WITTICISMS SHOW YOU FOR THE DOLT YOU ARE, WEB-SLINGER!
AND ALL ALONG I THOUGHT I WAS THE NEW WOODY ALLEN! SHEESH!
SKOK!

MORE JOKES? YOU ARE A FOOL, SPIDER-MAN. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED TO BUILD YOURSELF SUCH A STRONG REPUTATION!
BUT LET'S SEE HOW YOU USE YOUR JOKES TO STOP THIS!


SPIDEY--?
DON'T WORRY IT, NOVA. I CAN SNUFF OUT THIS FLAME WITH MY WEBBING.
YOU FIND GORGEOUS GEORGE!

IMPOSSIBLE! I CHECKED ALL THE CORRIDORS, AND HE'S GONE!
YOU JUST CAN'T UP AND VANISH INTO THIN AIR, CAN YOU?

DAZE?
YOU SEE THAT COSTUMED CREEP WHO WAYLAID YOU GO BY HERE?
HUNH? OH, ER--NO. NO ONE WAS HERE, NOVA.
NO ONE AT ALL!

DON'T TELL ME, ROCKETS, BY THE LOOK ON YOUR MASK--HE WAS GONE!
ALMOST LIKE HE WAS NEVER HERE, SPIDEY.
AND HE WAS NOWHERE OUTSIDE. I CHECKED FOR A HALF-MILE AROUND.
SO, UNLESS HE'S FASTER THAN I AM, HE'S STILL GOT TO BE HERE!
BUDDY, I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT! C'MON, LET'S GO BACK TO THE OTHERS--FAST!
AND THAT'S THE CUE FOR US TO CONVERGE ON THE LIBRARY...
...COME OFF IT, LINCOLN. YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH RIDER'S LATEST GIZMO.
YOU ARE THE FOOL, DEAN. JUST LIKE RIDER WAS.
I SUPPLIED THE MISSING FORMULA! I GAVE HIM THE INFORMATION HE NEEDED. WITHOUT ME, THE INVENTION WOULD BE USELESS!
RIDER WAS JEALOUS OF MY GENIUS...HE ENVIED MY BRILLIANCE!
AND YOU KILLED HIM FOR THAT?
YOU DID THREATEN HIM, MANNERS TOLD ME THAT.
FACT IS, YOU THREATENED HIM ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS. IN FACT, YOU WERE FIRED THIS MORNING, WEREN'T YOU?
YES, I THREATENED HIM. I HATED HIM. I WANTED HIM DEAD BECAUSE HE WAS BRILLIANT. HE WAS FAMOUS. HE WAS RICH!
HE HAD EVERYTHING I SHOULD HAVE HAD!
BUT, I DIDN'T KILL HIM.
YOU KNOW SOMETHING, MANNERS GAVE ME QUITE A BIT OF INFORMATION. FOR INSTANCE, HARRY--YOU DON'T WORK FOR YOURSELF, DO YOU?
OH NO--YOU WORK FOR A GROUP CALLED ADVANCED IDEAS MECHANICS--A.I.M. FOR SHORT.
A GROUP THAT'S WANTED BY EVERY LAW AGENCY IN THE WORLD!
WHAT?

THAT'S A LIE! I WORK FOR MYSELF!
MANNERS TOLD ME YOU PHONED DR. RIDER SEVERAL TIMES--YOU SAID YOU DEMANDED HE LET YOU BUY HIS INVENTION.
OR ELSE YOU'D HAVE HIM KILLED!
NO! YOU'RE MAKING IT ALL UP!
SOMEHOW I DOUBT THAT, CREEP.
NOW, MAYBE THE CAPTAIN CAN'T FORCE YOU TO TALK, BUT I CERTAINLY CAN.
SO WHY DON'T YOU START BEFORE I RE-ARRANGE YOUR ALREADY-REVOLTING FEATURES!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! IT'S TRUE, WE WANTED THAT INVENTION.
WE'D MAKE MILLIONS WITH IT. AND RIDER WANTED TO GIVE IT AWAY TO THE GOVERNMENT.
I ASSUME YOU'VE LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT US ALL, HAVEN'T YOU, CAPTAIN?
PERHAPS, CARE TO REVEAL SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF, MR. DEAN?
YOU MUST ALREADY KNOW I WORK FOR THE MAGGIA, A CRIME CARTEL. WE HEARD AIM WAS AFTER RIDER'S INVENTION. WE DECIDED TO GET IT FIRST.
BUT WE WERE PREPARED TO PAY, GOOD MONEY, TOO.
SURE, DEAN, AND I ASSUME IF YOU DIDN'T GET IT, YOU JUST WOULD HAVE SHRUGGED YOUR SHOULDERS AND SLINKED ON HOME, EH?
LISTEN, DEAN. THIS ISN'T A HICK TOWN.
SEEMS TO ME I'VE GOT FOUR SUSPECTS, RATHER MISERABLE SPECIMENS, TOO.
FIRST, THERE'S MICHAEL LINCOLN--RIDER'S EMBITTERED ASSISTANT. YOU BLAMED THE DOCTOR FOR HIS SUCCESS AND YOUR FAILURE.
FRANKLIN RISK, YOU'RE A STRONG-ARM BUSINESSMAN WHOSE BEEN KNOWN TO ENGAGE IN ANY SHADY DEAL TO GET WHAT HE WANTS.
HARRY DAZE, YOU BELONG TO AIM, A GROUP THAT KILLS AT THE DROP OF A HAT. ALSO, A GROUP FANATICAL ABOUT NEW WEAPONS AND INVENTIONS.
AND FINALLY, YOU, JASON DEAN. THE MAGGIA HAS ITS HAND IN EVERY ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IN THE COUNTRY. WE CAN'T RULE YOU OUT, CAN WE?

HEY, WHAT ABOUT THAT PARKER KID? HE KEEPS DISAPPEARING.
SORRY, HANDSOME, BUT HE WAS WITH ME WHEN PHOTON STRUCK A FEW MINUTES AGO.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE OF YOU WHO COULDN'T BE THE KILLER.
CAPTAIN, YOU SAID MANNERS TOLD YOU MORE...?
UNOBTRUSIVELY, A DARK SHOE WORMS ITS WAY ACROSS THE BASEBOARD THEN WRAPS ITSELF ABOUT A LAMP PLUG.
AND, AS EVERYONE WAITS FOR CAPTAIN JAMES STEELE TO SPEAK AGAIN--
HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
ALL RIGHT, NO ONE MOVE! I GOT IT!
HEY! RISK! DEAN! AND DAZE-- THEY'RE GONE!
BUT WHERE?
THEY MUST'VE RUN WHILE THE LIGHTS WERE OUT!
AND I WAS LOOKING FOR THE SWITCH. I DIDN'T SEE THEM.
CAPTAIN, WHAT ELSE DID MANNERS TELL YOU? WHO DID HE SAY KILLED DR. RIDER?
HE GAVE ME THE INFORMATION I JUST TOLD EVERYONE AND THEN, JUST BEFORE HE COULD FINISH--
--HE WAS KILLED!
ALL RIGHT, ALL THE CLUES HAVE BEEN SPELLED OUT FOR YOU!
WHO KILLED DOCTOR RIDER?
WAS IT:
HARRY DAZE?
JASON DEAN?
MICHAEL LINCOLN?
FRANKLIN RISK?
OR WAS IT SOMEONE ELSE?
THE ANSWER WILL BE REVEALED IN--
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
No.171
ON SALE NOW!
NEXT ISSUE:
MEANWHILE, BE BACK HERE NEXT MONTH AS NOVA IS TOLD...
WATCH OUT, WORLD, THE SANDMAN IS BACK!

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
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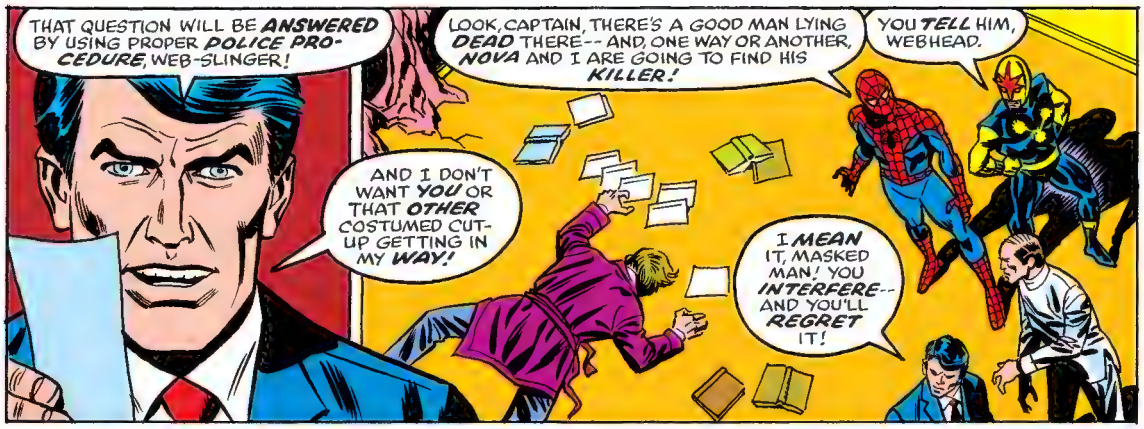
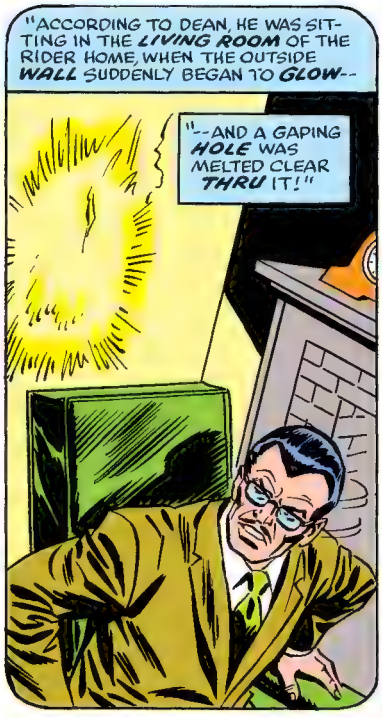
171 AUG 02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
SIDE·BY·SIDE WITH
NOVA™
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
WITH MY TWO GREATEST FOES SLAIN...
...NOTHING CAN STOP PHOTON!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
LEN WEIN WRITER/EDITOR
ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR
MIKE ESPOSITO EMBELLISHER
GLYNIS WEIN COLORIST
JOE ROSEN LETTERER
STOP! DO NOT READ THIS STORY UNTIL YOU HAVE STUDIED THE STARTLING EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRE IN NOVA #12! YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!
PHOTON IS ANOTHER NAME FOR...?
OKAY, SO WE HAVE ALL SORTS OF CLUES TO THE MURDERER OF DR. RALPH RIDER!
THE QUESTION STILL REMAINS... WHODUNIT??
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
THIS IS THE KILLER, BUT IS HE ALSO...
HARRY DAZE
JASON DEAN
MICHAEL LINCOLN
PETER PARKER
FRANKLIN RISK

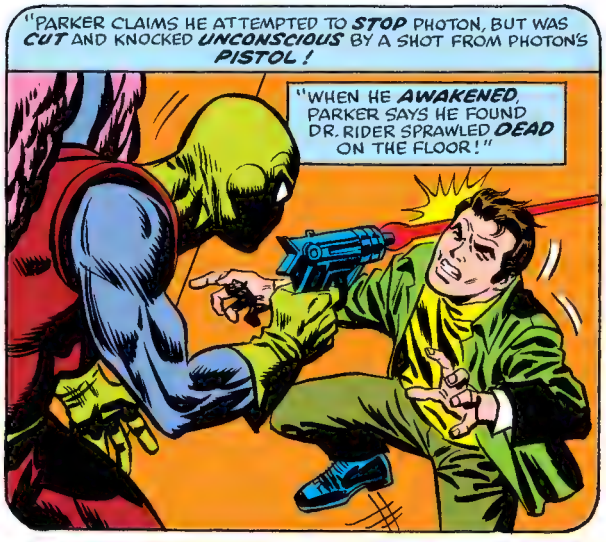

THAT QUESTION WILL BE ANSWERED BY USING PROPER POLICE PROCEDURE, WEB-SLINGER!
AND I DON'T WANT YOU OR THAT OTHER COSTUMED CUT-UP GETTING IN MY WAY!
LOOK, CAPTAIN, THERE'S A GOOD MAN LYING DEAD THERE-- AND, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, NOVA AND I ARE GOING TO FIND HIS KILLER!
I MEAN IT, MASKED MAN! YOU INTERFERE-- AND YOU'LL REGRET IT!
YOU TELL HIM, WEBHEAD.

NOW LET ME GET ALL WE'VE LEARNED THUS FAR DOWN ON TAPE WHILE IT'S STILL FRESH IN MY MIND...
INVESTIGATION OF THE DEATH OF DR. RALPH RIDER... CAPTAIN JAMES STEELE REPORTING.
THE DOCTOR'S MURDER WAS FIRST REPORTED TO ME AT 2:30 THIS AFTERNOON BY ONE JASON DEAN.


"ACCORDING TO DEAN, HE WAS SITTING IN THE LIVING ROOM OF THE RIDER HOME, WHEN THE OUTSIDE WALL SUDDENLY BEGAN TO GLOW--
"--AND A GAPING HOLE WAS MELTED CLEAR THRU IT!"

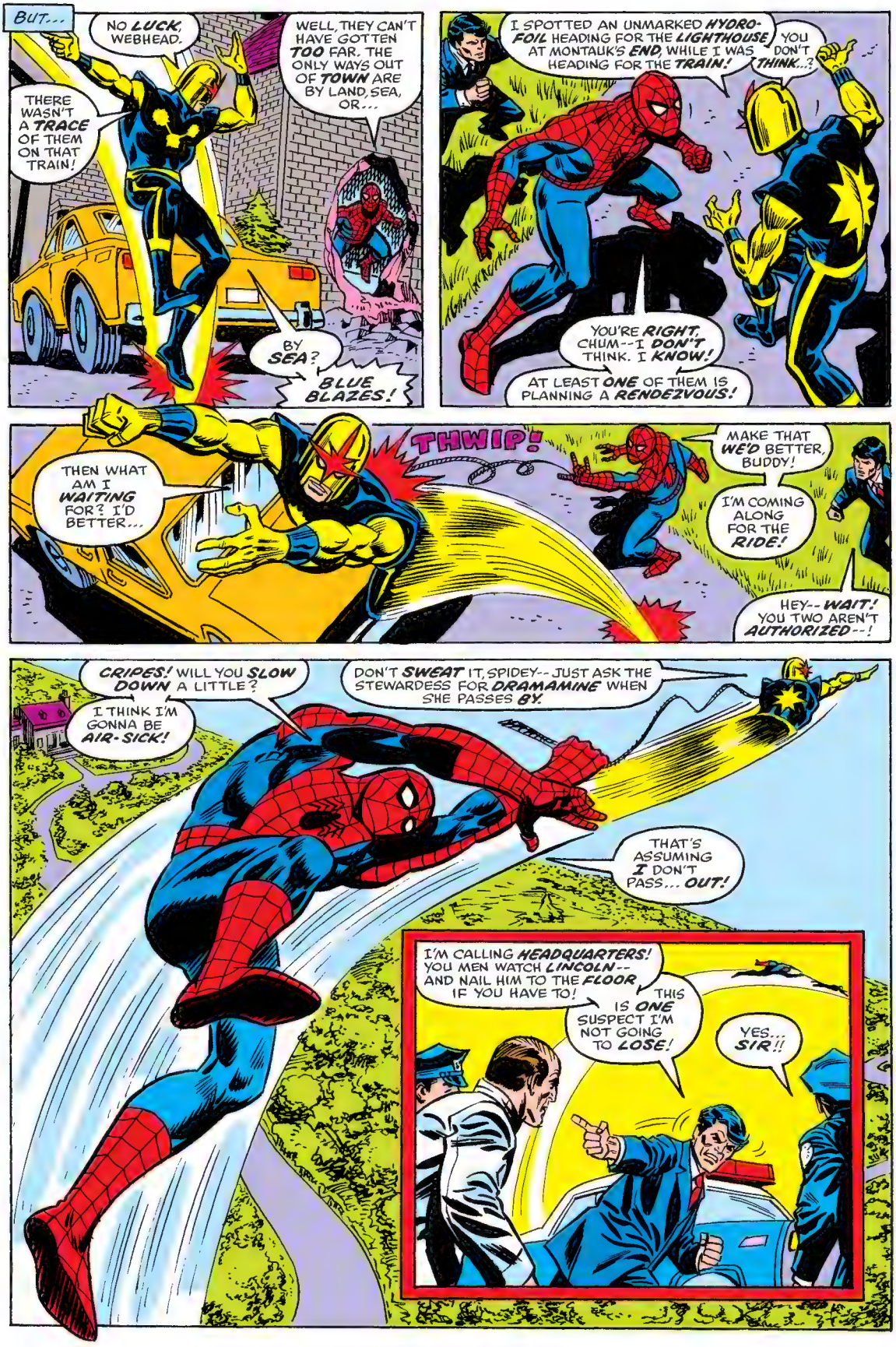
I AM PHOTON! TELL ME WHERE TO FIND DR. RIDER!
"BUT BEFORE DEAN COULD REPLY PHOTON ALLEGEDLY KNOCKED HIM ASIDE... AND MOVED ON!

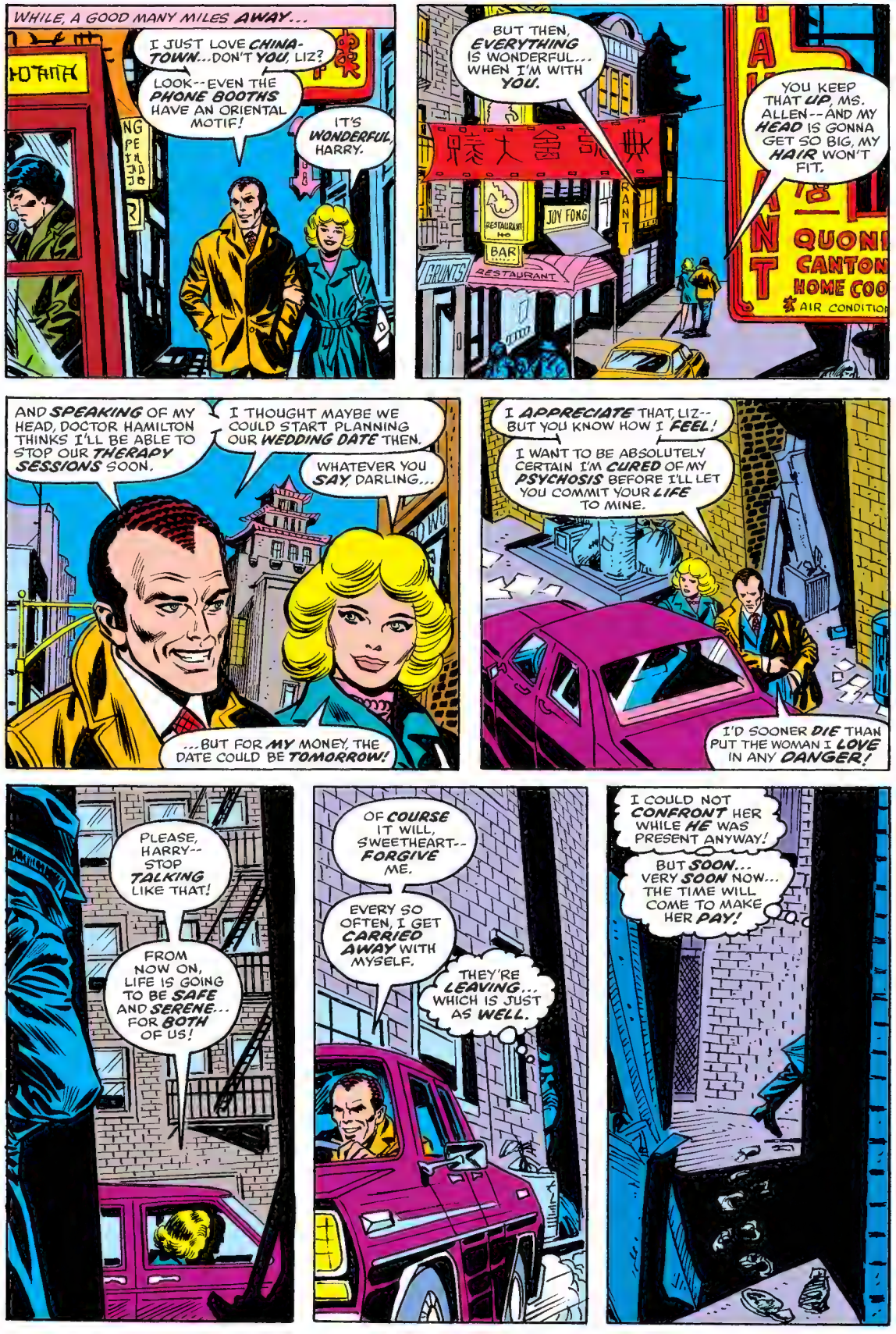
"ACCORDING TO THE TESTIMONY OF ONE PETER PARKER, HE WAS WITH THE VICTIM AT 2:20 P.M., DISCUSSING DR. RIDER'S FASCINATION WITH ANAGRAMS, WHEN THE LIBRARY WALL DISAPPEARED...
"...AND PHOTON STRUCK ONCE MORE!

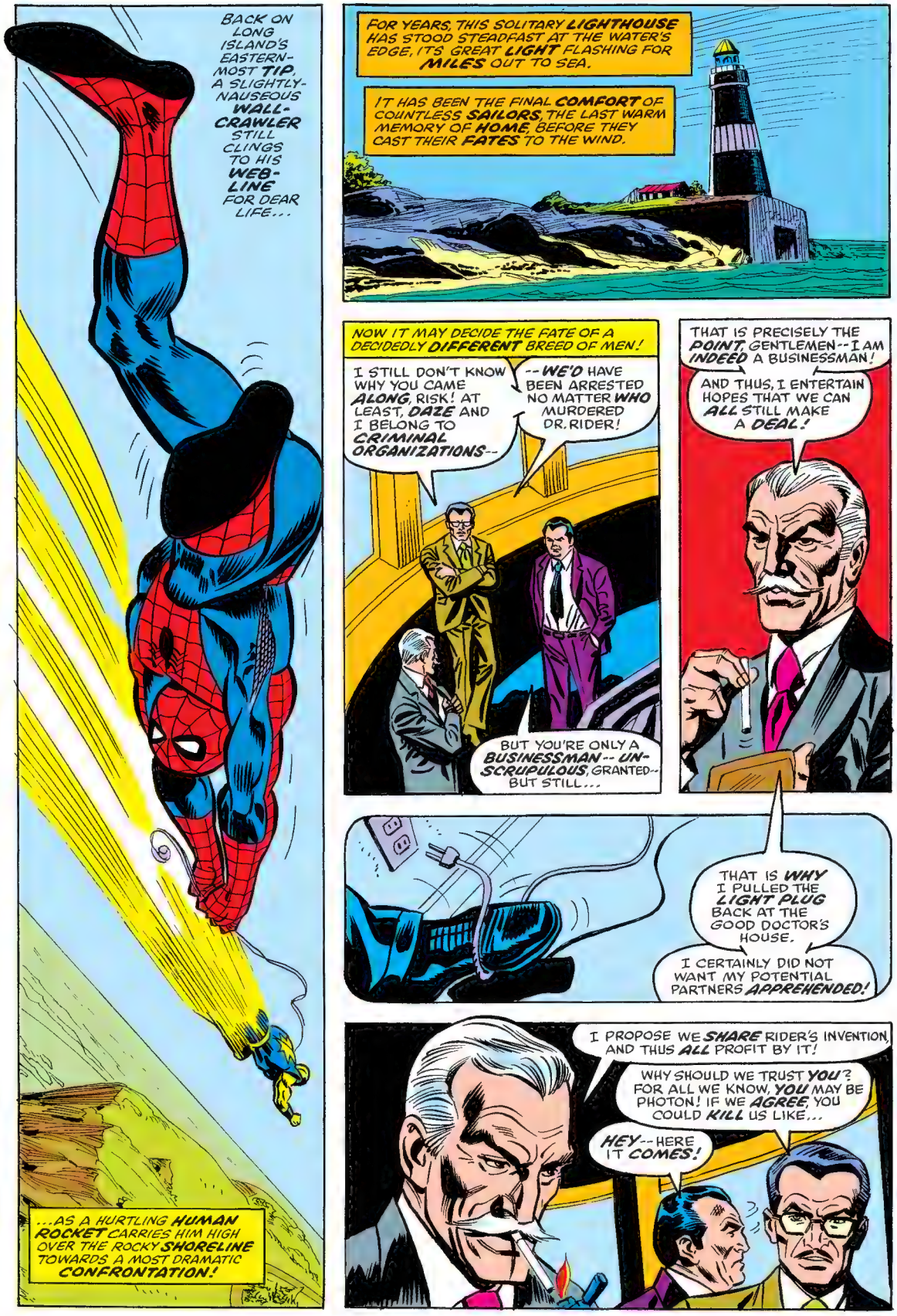

"PARKER CLAIMS HE ATTEMPTED TO STOP PHOTON, BUT WAS CUT AND KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS BY A SHOT FROM PHOTON'S PISTOL!
"WHEN HE AWAKENED, PARKER SAYS HE FOUND DR. RIDER SPRAWLED DEAD ON THE FLOOR!"

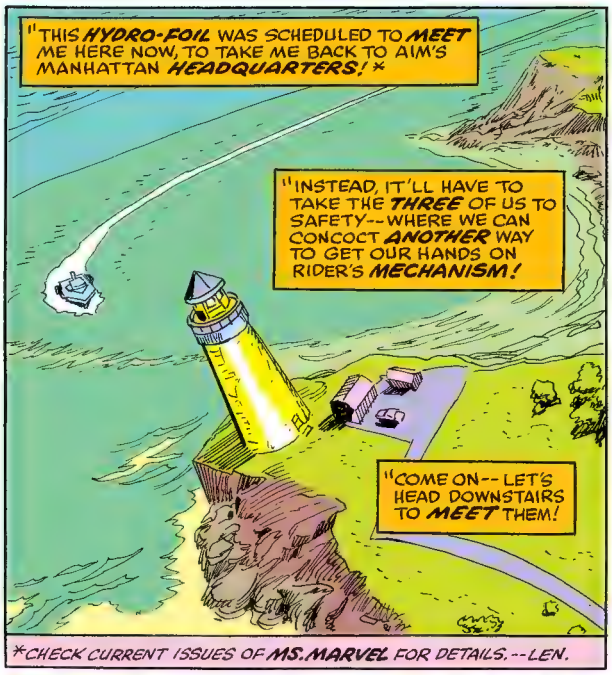
YEAH-- JUST LIKE HARRY DAZE, WHO SAYS HE WAS ZAPPED BY PHOTON TOO, WHEN HE TRIED TO GRAB HIM IN THE KITCHEN!
BOY, CAN'T TELL THE PLAYERS IN THIS GAME WITHOUT A SCORECARD, CAN YOU?
NOW DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME YOUR MEN ATTENDED TO-- ER-- DR. RIDER'S BODY, CAPTAIN?
ALL IN GOOD TIME, MISTER...
...JUST AS SOON AS I FINISH TAPING THIS BLASTED REPORT!
"THE FINAL SUSPECT IN THE RIDER HOME AT THE TIME OF THE MURDER WAS BUSINESSMAN FRANKLIN RISK...
"...WHO CLAIMS HE WAS DOWN IN THE GAME ROOM DURING THE KILLING, AND NEVER HEARD A THING!"
BUT, AT THE MOMENT, EVERY ONE OF THE SUSPECTS HAS DISAPPEARED-- THANKS TO SOMEBODY TURNING OFF THE LIGHTS!
EVERY ONE, THAT IS... EXCEPT YOU, MICHAEL LINCOLN!
NOW LOOK, CAPTAIN-- I MAY HAVE HATED RIDER, AND CLAIMED CREDIT FOR HIS WORK-- BUT I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS DEATH!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, MISTER, AND I ASSURE YOU, WE WILL SEE BEFORE...
WE'VE FINISHED UP IN THE OTHER ROOM, CAPTAIN. WE'RE TAKING THE BUTLER'S BODY OUT TO THE WAGON NOW.
THAT'S THE ONE THING WE DO KNOW ABOUT THIS KILLING, SPIDEY...
YEAH... AT LEAST, THE BUTLER DIDN'T DO IT!
AND POOR MANNERS WAS MURDERED BY PHOTON AS HE WAS ABOUT TO REVEAL THE KILLER'S IDENTITY!

CAPTAIN, WE DID AS YOU ORDERED! NONE OF THE SUSPECTS HAVE PASSED OUR ROADBLOCKS...
...BUT A TRAIN LEFT MONTAUK BEFORE WE HAD A CHANCE TO CHECK IT OUT!
AND BY THE TIME YOU STOP IT AT THE NEXT STATION, OUR SUSPECTS COULD BE LONG GONE...
...SO IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO YOURS TRULY TO PLAY ONE-MAN POSSE!
I DON'T KNOW WHY-- BUT THERE'S A LOT CAPTAIN STEELE LEFT OUT OF THAT REPORT...
FOR EXAMPLE, THE FACT THAT JASON DEAN IS AN AGENT OF THE CRIME CARTEL CALLED THE MAGGIA...
...WHILE HARRY DAZE WORKS FOR ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AIM...
...AND FRANKLIN RISK IS THE SORT OF BUSINESSMAN WHO'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET WHAT HE WANTS...
...AND WHAT THEY ALL WANT IS MY UNCLE RALPH'S NEWEST INVENTION!
I OVERTOOK IT LIKE IT WAS STANDING STILL!
HEY-- THERE'S THE TRAIN DOWN BELOW ME!
Y'KNOW, I STILL CAN'T GET OVER THE WAY HARD-HEADED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RICH RIDER HAS BECOME THE ROCKET-HEADED NOVA!
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, FOLKS-- JUST NEW YORK'S NEWEST SENSATION TRACKING DOWN ANOTHER NEFARIOUS EVIL-DOER!
YOU KNOW-- YOUR AVERAGE EVERYDAY SUPER-HERO STUFF!

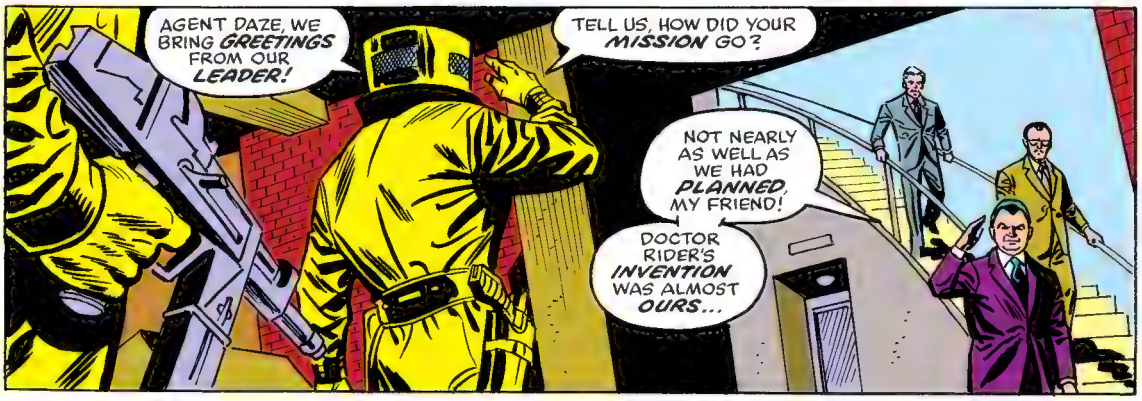

BUT...
NO LUCK, WEBHEAD.
WELL, THEY CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN TOO FAR. THE ONLY WAYS OUT OF TOWN ARE BY LAND, SEA, OR...
THERE WASN'T A TRACE OF THEM ON THAT TRAIN!
BY SEA?
BLUE BLAZES!
I SPOTTED AN UNMARKED HYDRO-FOIL HEADING FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE AT MONTAUK'S END, WHILE I WAS HEADING FOR THE TRAIN!
YOU DON'T THINK...?
YOU'RE RIGHT, CHUM--I DON'T THINK. I KNOW!
AT LEAST ONE OF THEM IS PLANNING A RENDEZVOUS!
THWIP!
THEN WHAT AM I WAITING FOR? I'D BETTER...
MAKE THAT WE'D BETTER, BUDDY!
I'M COMING ALONG FOR THE RIDE!
HEY--WAIT! YOU TWO AREN'T AUTHORIZED--!
CRIPES! WILL YOU SLOW DOWN A LITTLE?
I THINK I'M GONNA BE AIR-SICK!
DON'T SWEAT IT, SPIDEY--JUST ASK THE STEWARDESS FOR DRAMAMINE WHEN SHE PASSES BY.
THAT'S ASSUMING I DON'T PASS... OUT!
I'M CALLING HEADQUARTERS! YOU MEN WATCH LINCOLN--AND NAIL HIM TO THE FLOOR IF YOU HAVE TO!
THIS IS ONE SUSPECT I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE!
YES... SIR!!


WHILE, A GOOD MANY MILES AWAY...
I JUST LOVE CHINA-TOWN...DON'T YOU, LIZ?
LOOK--EVEN THE PHONE BOOTHS HAVE AN ORIENTAL MOTIF!
IT'S WONDERFUL, HARRY.
BUT THEN, EVERYTHING IS WONDERFUL... WHEN I'M WITH YOU.
YOU KEEP THAT UP, MS. ALLEN--AND MY HEAD IS GONNA GET SO BIG, MY HAIR WON'T FIT.
JOY FONG
RESTAURANT
BAR
GRUNTS
RESTAURANT
AIR CONDITIO
AND SPEAKING OF MY HEAD, DOCTOR HAMILTON THINKS I'LL BE ABLE TO STOP OUR THERAPY SESSIONS SOON.
I THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD START PLANNING OUR WEDDING DATE THEN.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, DARLING...
...BUT FOR MY MONEY, THE DATE COULD BE TOMORROW!
I APPRECIATE THAT, LIZ--BUT YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL!
I WANT TO BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN I'M CURED OF MY PSYCHOSIS BEFORE I'LL LET YOU COMMIT YOUR LIFE TO MINE.
I'D SOONER DIE THAN PUT THE WOMAN I LOVE IN ANY DANGER!
PLEASE, HARRY--STOP TALKING LIKE THAT!
FROM NOW ON, LIFE IS GOING TO BE SAFE AND SERENE... FOR BOTH OF US!
OF COURSE IT WILL, SWEETHEART--FORGIVE ME.
EVERY SO OFTEN, I GET CARRIED AWAY WITH MYSELF.
THEY'RE LEAVING... WHICH IS JUST AS WELL.
I COULD NOT CONFRONT HER WHILE HE WAS PRESENT ANYWAY!
BUT SOON... VERY SOON NOW... THE TIME WILL COME TO MAKE HER PAY!


BACK ON LONG ISLAND'S EASTERN-MOST TIP, A SLIGHTLY-NAUSEOUS WALL-CRAWLER STILL CLINGS TO HIS WEB-LINE FOR DEAR LIFE...
...AS A HURTLING HUMAN ROCKET CARRIES HIM HIGH OVER THE ROCKY SHORELINE TOWARDS A MOST DRAMATIC CONFRONTATION!
FOR YEARS, THIS SOLITARY LIGHTHOUSE HAS STOOD STEADFAST AT THE WATER'S EDGE, ITS GREAT LIGHT FLASHING FOR MILES OUT TO SEA.
IT HAS BEEN THE FINAL COMFORT OF COUNTLESS SAILORS, THE LAST WARM MEMORY OF HOME, BEFORE THEY CAST THEIR FATES TO THE WIND.
NOW IT MAY DECIDE THE FATE OF A DECIDEDLY DIFFERENT BREED OF MEN!
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY YOU CAME ALONG, RISK! AT LEAST, DAZE AND I BELONG TO CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS--
--WE'D HAVE BEEN ARRESTED NO MATTER WHO MURDERED DR. RIDER!
BUT YOU'RE ONLY A BUSINESSMAN-- UNSCRUPULOUS, GRANTED-- BUT STILL...
THAT IS PRECISELY THE POINT, GENTLEMEN-- I AM INDEED A BUSINESSMAN!
AND THUS, I ENTERTAIN HOPES THAT WE CAN ALL STILL MAKE A DEAL!
THAT IS WHY I PULLED THE LIGHT PLUG BACK AT THE GOOD DOCTOR'S HOUSE.
I CERTAINLY DID NOT WANT MY POTENTIAL PARTNERS APPREHENDED!
I PROPOSE WE SHARE RIDER'S INVENTION, AND THUS ALL PROFIT BY IT!
WHY SHOULD WE TRUST YOU? FOR ALL WE KNOW, YOU MAY BE PHOTON! IF WE AGREE, YOU COULD KILL US LIKE...
HEY-- HERE IT COMES!

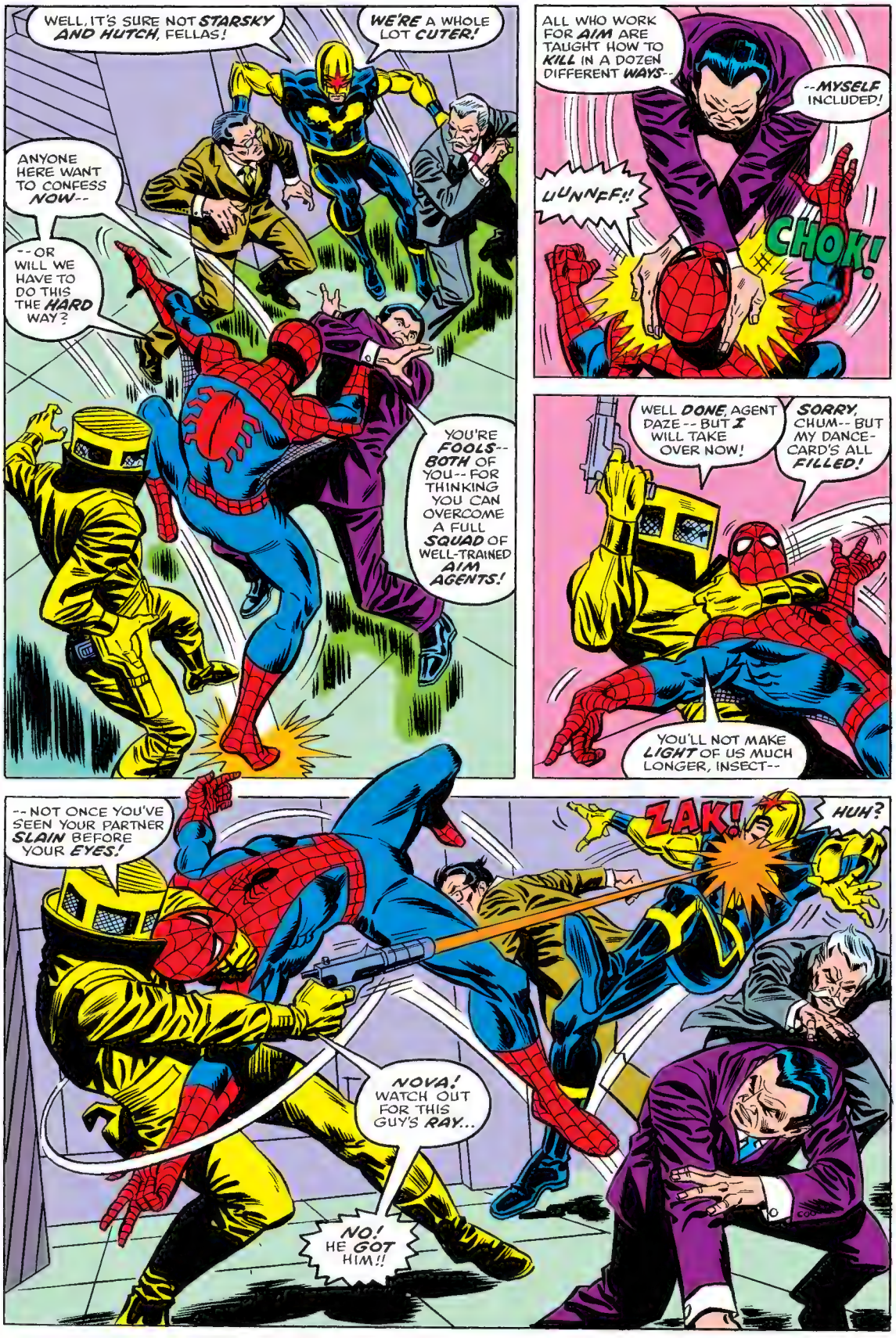

"THIS HYDRO-FOIL WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET ME HERE NOW, TO TAKE ME BACK TO AIM'S MANHATTAN HEADQUARTERS! *
"INSTEAD, IT'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE THREE OF US TO SAFETY--WHERE WE CAN CONCOCT ANOTHER WAY TO GET OUR HANDS ON RIDER'S MECHANISM!
"COME ON--LET'S HEAD DOWNSTAIRS TO MEET THEM!
*CHECK CURRENT ISSUES OF MS. MARVEL FOR DETAILS.--LEN.

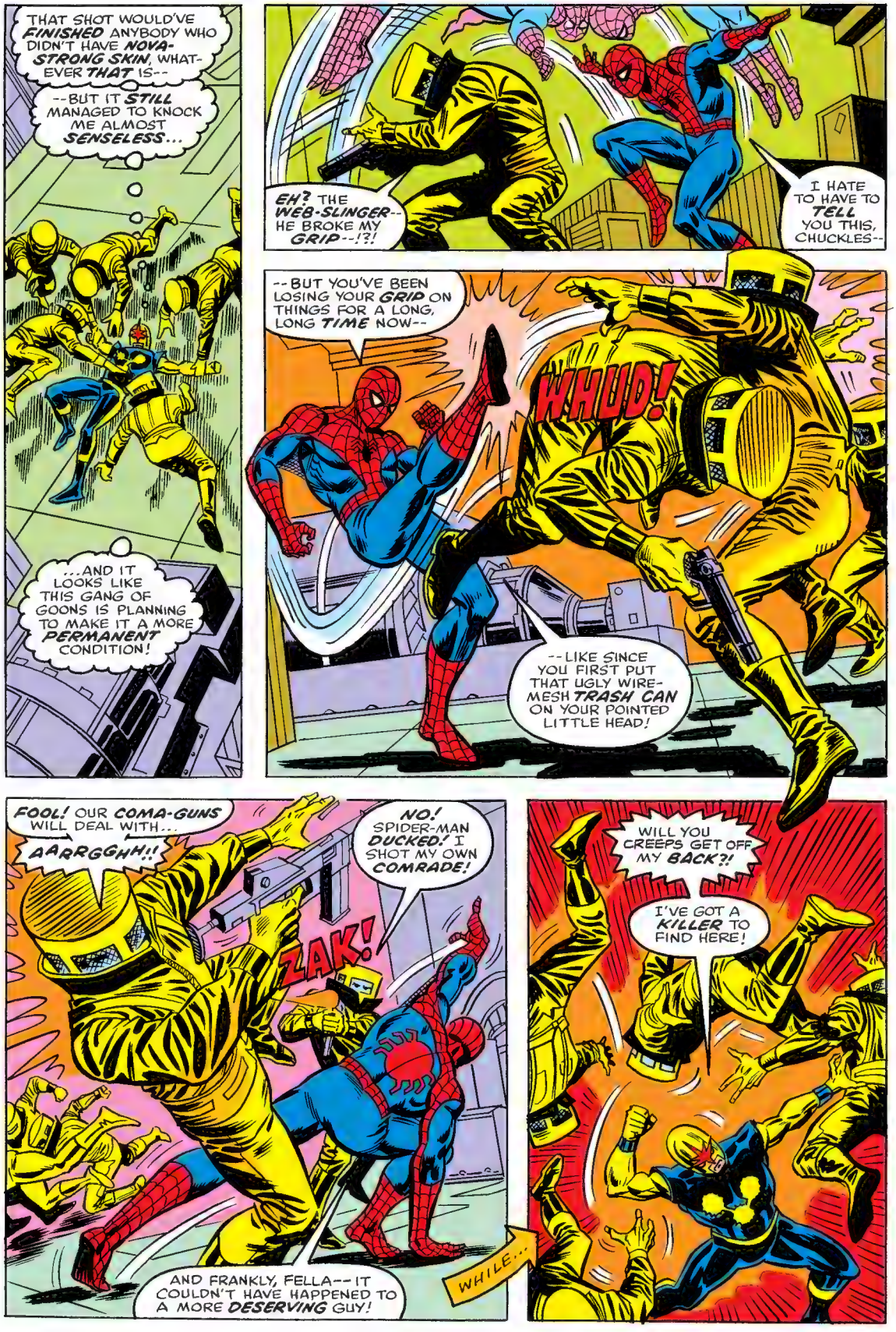
"YEARS AGO, AIM INSTALLED A SECRET BOAT BASIN BENEATH THIS LIGHT-HOUSE--TO SERVE AS A HIDDEN BASE OF OPERATIONS SHOULD THE NEED EVER ARISE.
"AIM IS ALWAYS PREPARED... FOR ANYTHING!"

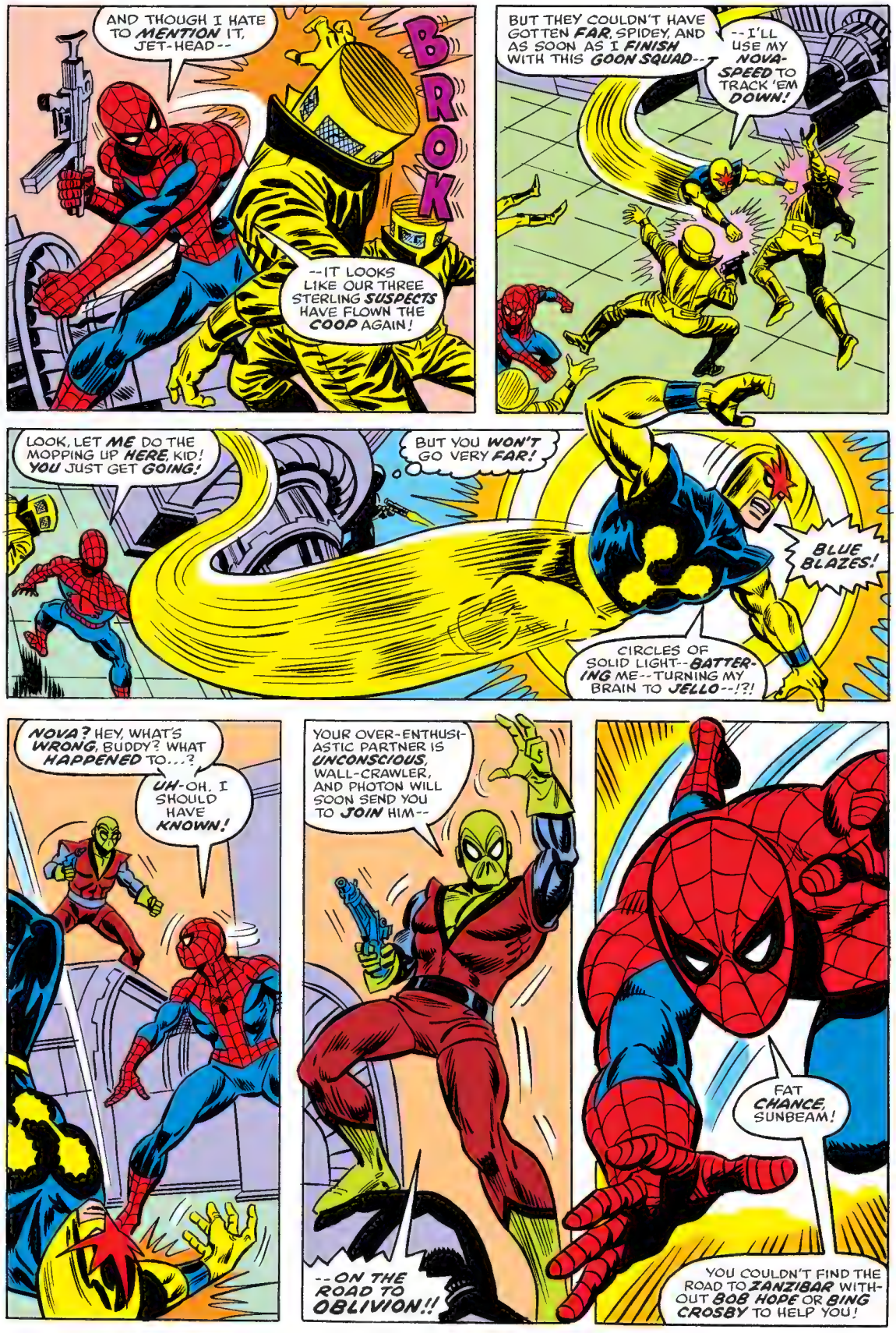

AGENT DAZE, WE BRING GREETINGS FROM OUR LEADER!
TELL US, HOW DID YOUR MISSION GO?
NOT NEARLY AS WELL AS WE HAD PLANNED, MY FRIEND!
DOCTOR RIDER'S INVENTION WAS ALMOST OURS...

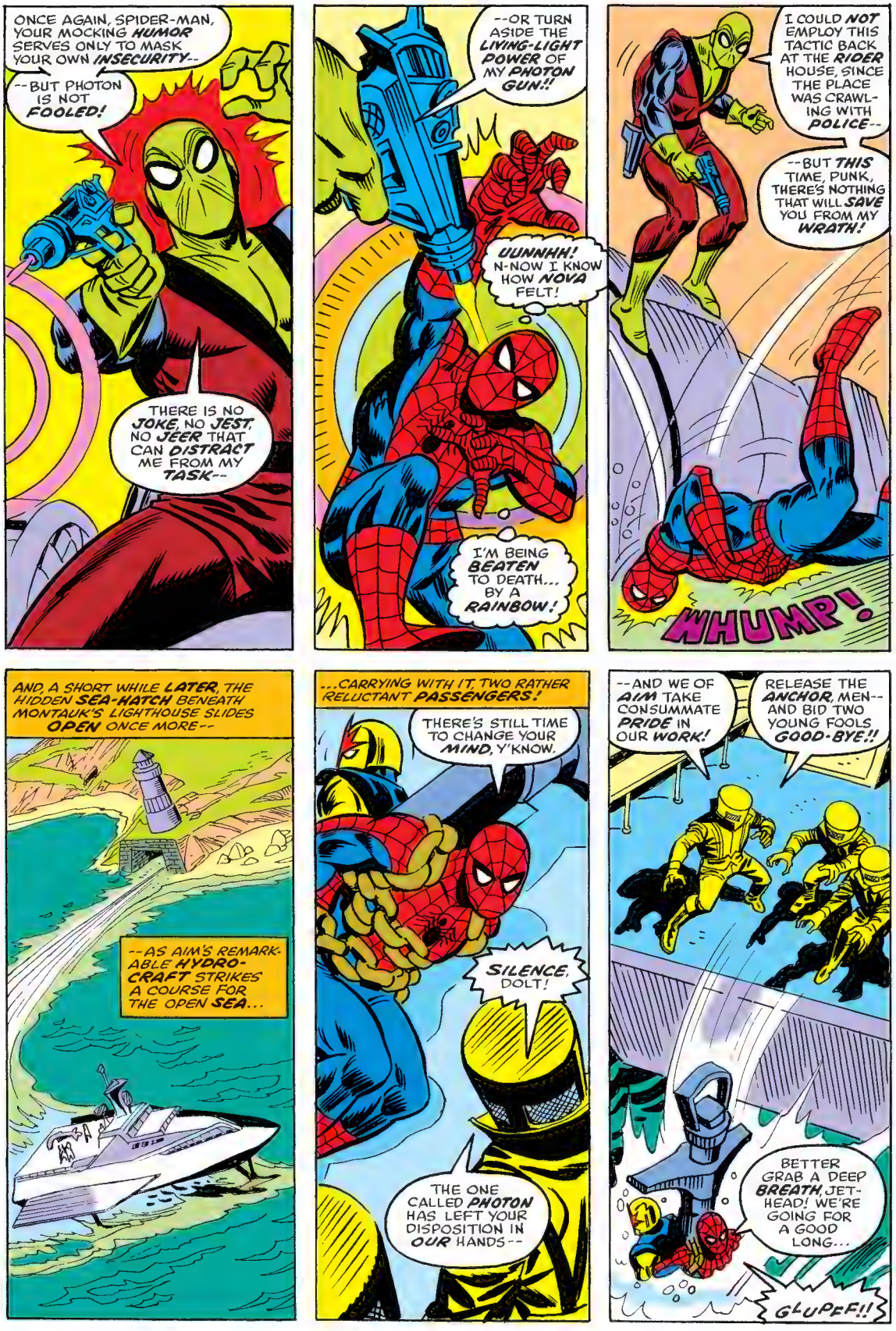
...BUT AT THE LAST MOMENT, MY EFFORTS TO OBTAIN IT WERE THWARTED BY THE UNTIMELY INTERVENTION OF SPIDER-MAN--AND THAT NEW SUPER-BEING CALLED NOVA!
THEN IT IS OUR GIVEN DUTY TO RETURN TO THAT HOUSE--AND FIND IT!
THE DEVICE IS STILL HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN RIDER'S HOUSE!
WE HAVE BEEN ORDERED NOT TO RETURN WITHOUT THAT WHICH WE WERE SENT HERE TO GAIN!

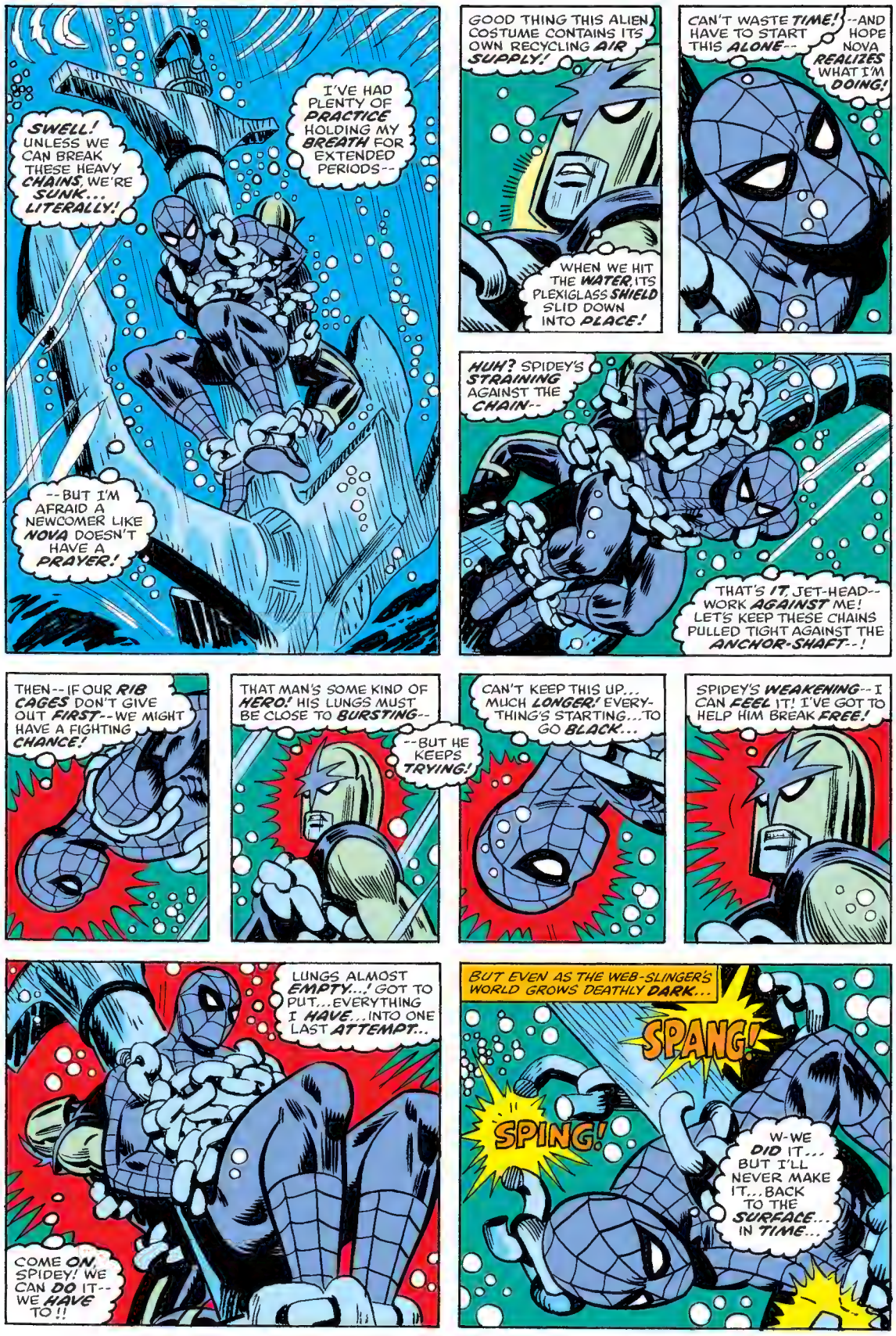
WELL, WE'VE GOT SOME NEW ORDERS FOR YOU, BUNKIE--
--GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL! DO NOT PASS GO--AND DEFINITELY DO NOT COLLECT DR. RIDER'S INVENTION!
WHO--?!?

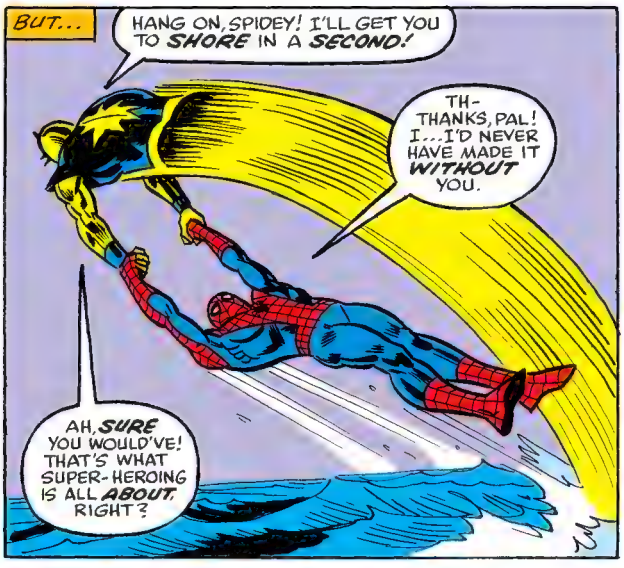

WELL, IT'S SURE NOT STARSKY AND HUTCH, FELLAS!
WE'RE A WHOLE LOT CUTER!
ANYONE HERE WANT TO CONFESS NOW--
--OR WILL WE HAVE TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY?
YOU'RE FOOLS-- BOTH OF YOU-- FOR THINKING YOU CAN OVERCOME A FULL SQUAD OF WELL-TRAINED AIM AGENTS!
ALL WHO WORK FOR AIM ARE TAUGHT HOW TO KILL IN A DOZEN DIFFERENT WAYS--
--MYSELF INCLUDED!
UUNNFF!!
CHOK!
WELL DONE, AGENT DAZE -- BUT I WILL TAKE OVER NOW!
SORRY, CHUM-- BUT MY DANCE-CARD'S ALL FILLED!
YOU'LL NOT MAKE LIGHT OF US MUCH LONGER, INSECT--
--NOT ONCE YOU'VE SEEN YOUR PARTNER SLAIN BEFORE YOUR EYES!
ZAK!
HUH?
NOVA! WATCH OUT FOR THIS GUY'S RAY...
NO! HE GOT HIM!!


THAT SHOT WOULD'VE FINISHED ANYBODY WHO DIDN'T HAVE NOVA-STRONG SKIN, WHATEVER THAT IS--
--BUT IT STILL MANAGED TO KNOCK ME ALMOST SENSELESS...
...AND IT LOOKS LIKE THIS GANG OF GOONS IS PLANNING TO MAKE IT A MORE PERMANENT CONDITION!
EH? THE WEB-SLINGER-- HE BROKE MY GRIP--!?!
I HATE TO HAVE TO TELL YOU THIS, CHUCKLES--
--BUT YOU'VE BEEN LOSING YOUR GRIP ON THINGS FOR A LONG, LONG TIME NOW--
WHUD!
--LIKE SINCE YOU FIRST PUT THAT UGLY WIRE-MESH TRASH CAN ON YOUR POINTED LITTLE HEAD!
FOOL! OUR COMA-GUNS WILL DEAL WITH...
AARRGGHH!!
NO! SPIDER-MAN DUCKED! I SHOT MY OWN COMRADE!
ZAK!
AND FRANKLY, FELLA-- IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED TO A MORE DESERVING GUY!
WHILE...
WILL YOU CREEPS GET OFF MY BACK?!
I'VE GOT A KILLER TO FIND HERE!


AND THOUGH I HATE TO MENTION IT, JET-HEAD--
BROK
--IT LOOKS LIKE OUR THREE STERLING SUSPECTS HAVE FLOWN THE COOP AGAIN!
BUT THEY COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR, SPIDEY, AND AS SOON AS I FINISH WITH THIS GOON SQUAD--
--I'LL USE MY NOVA-SPEED TO TRACK 'EM DOWN!
LOOK, LET ME DO THE MOPPING UP HERE, KID! YOU JUST GET GOING!
BUT YOU WON'T GO VERY FAR!
BLUE BLAZES!
CIRCLES OF SOLID LIGHT--BATTERING ME--TURNING MY BRAIN TO JELLO--!?!
NOVA? HEY, WHAT'S WRONG, BUDDY? WHAT HAPPENED TO...?
UH-OH. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!
YOUR OVER-ENTHUSIASTIC PARTNER IS UNCONSCIOUS, WALL-CRAWLER, AND PHOTON WILL SOON SEND YOU TO JOIN HIM--
--ON THE ROAD TO OBLIVION!!
FAT CHANCE, SUNBEAM!
YOU COULDN'T FIND THE ROAD TO ZANZIBAR WITHOUT BOB HOPE OR BING CROSBY TO HELP YOU!

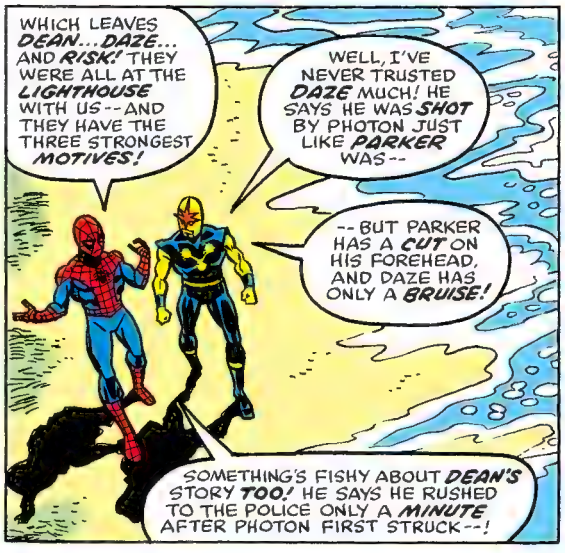

ONCE AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN, YOUR MOCKING HUMOR SERVES ONLY TO MASK YOUR OWN INSECURITY--
--BUT PHOTON IS NOT FOOLED!
THERE IS NO JOKE, NO JEST, NO JEER THAT CAN DISTRACT ME FROM MY TASK--
--OR TURN ASIDE THE LIVING-LIGHT POWER OF MY PHOTON GUN!!
UUNNHH! N-NOW I KNOW HOW NOVA FELT!
I'M BEING BEATEN TO DEATH... BY A RAINBOW!
I COULD NOT EMPLOY THIS TACTIC BACK AT THE RIDER HOUSE, SINCE THE PLACE WAS CRAWLING WITH POLICE--
--BUT THIS TIME, PUNK, THERE'S NOTHING THAT WILL SAVE YOU FROM MY WRATH!
WHUMP!
AND, A SHORT WHILE LATER, THE HIDDEN SEA-HATCH BENEATH MONTAUK'S LIGHTHOUSE SLIDES OPEN ONCE MORE--
--AS AIM'S REMARKABLE HYDRO-CRAFT STRIKES A COURSE FOR THE OPEN SEA...
...CARRYING WITH IT, TWO RATHER RELUCTANT PASSENGERS!
THERE'S STILL TIME TO CHANGE YOUR MIND, Y'KNOW.
SILENCE, DOLT!
THE ONE CALLED PHOTON HAS LEFT YOUR DISPOSITION IN OUR HANDS--
--AND WE OF AIM TAKE CONSUMMATE PRIDE IN OUR WORK!
RELEASE THE ANCHOR, MEN--AND BID TWO YOUNG FOOLS GOOD-BYE!!
BETTER GRAB A DEEP BREATH, JET-HEAD! WE'RE GOING FOR A GOOD LONG...
GLUPEF!!

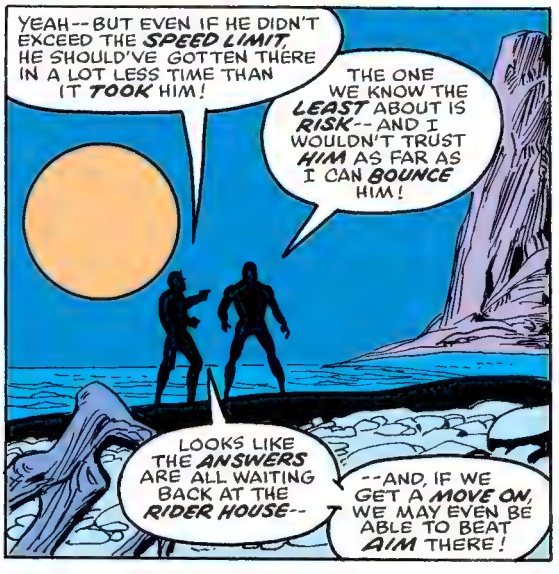

SWELL! UNLESS WE CAN BREAK THESE HEAVY CHAINS, WE'RE SUNK... LITERALLY!
I'VE HAD PLENTY OF PRACTICE HOLDING MY BREATH FOR EXTENDED PERIODS--
--BUT I'M AFRAID A NEWCOMER LIKE NOVA DOESN'T HAVE A PRAYER!
GOOD THING THIS ALIEN COSTUME CONTAINS ITS OWN RECYCLING AIR SUPPLY!
WHEN WE HIT THE WATER, ITS PLEXIGLASS SHIELD SLID DOWN INTO PLACE!
CAN'T WASTE TIME! HAVE TO START THIS ALONE--
--AND HOPE NOVA REALIZES WHAT I'M DOING!
HUH? SPIDEY'S STRAINING AGAINST THE CHAIN--
THAT'S IT, JET-HEAD-- WORK AGAINST ME! LET'S KEEP THESE CHAINS PULLED TIGHT AGAINST THE ANCHOR-SHAFT--!
THEN--IF OUR RIB CAGES DON'T GIVE OUT FIRST--WE MIGHT HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE!
THAT MAN'S SOME KIND OF HERO! HIS LUNGS MUST BE CLOSE TO BURSTING--
--BUT HE KEEPS TRYING!
CAN'T KEEP THIS UP... MUCH LONGER! EVERYTHING'S STARTING...TO GO BLACK...
SPIDEY'S WEAKENING--I CAN FEEL IT! I'VE GOT TO HELP HIM BREAK FREE!
LUNGS ALMOST EMPTY...! GOT TO PUT...EVERYTHING I HAVE...INTO ONE LAST ATTEMPT...
COME ON, SPIDEY! WE CAN DO IT-- WE HAVE TO!!
BUT EVEN AS THE WEB-SLINGER'S WORLD GROWS DEATHLY DARK...
SPANG!
SPING!
W-WE DID IT... BUT I'LL NEVER MAKE IT...BACK TO THE SURFACE... IN TIME...


BUT...
HANG ON, SPIDEY! I'LL GET YOU TO SHORE IN A SECOND!
TH-THANKS, PAL! I...I'D NEVER HAVE MADE IT WITHOUT YOU.
AH, SURE YOU WOULD'VE! THAT'S WHAT SUPER-HEROING IS ALL ABOUT, RIGHT?

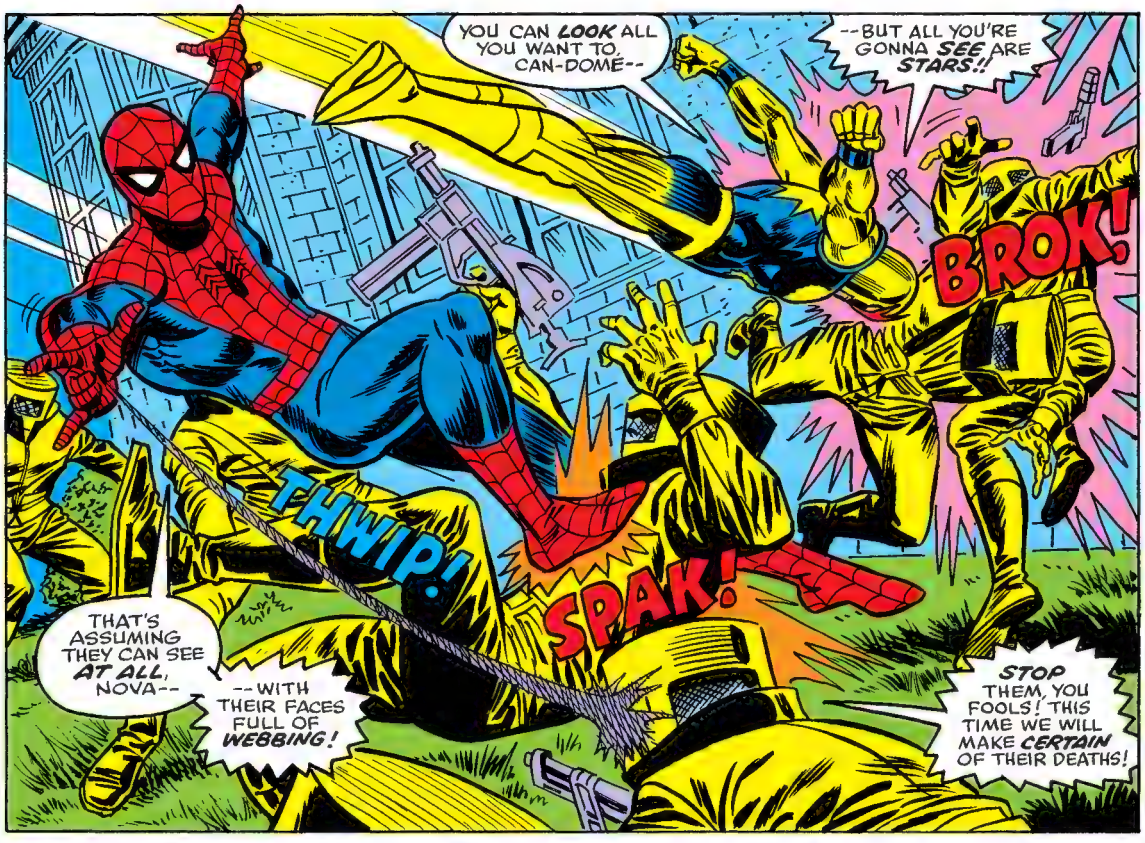
AND WHEN OUR SOGGY STALWARTS HAVE CLEARED THE WATER OUT OF THEIR EARS...
I THINK WE OUGHT TO TAKE A BREAK FOR A MINUTE WHILE WE DRY OFF--
--AND TRY TO PIECE THIS JUMBLED JIGSAW PUZZLE TOGETHER!
OKAY, THEN WHAT SAY WE RECAP WHAT WE KNOW?
IT'LL TAKE A LOT LESS TIME THAN LISTING WHAT WE DON'T KNOW.

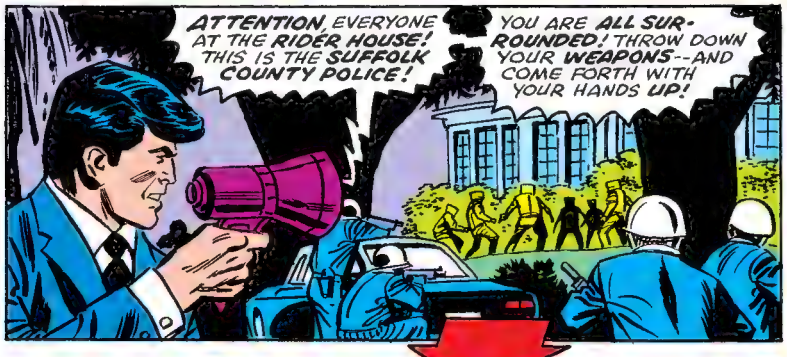
WELL, FIRST OFF, I'D SAY WE CAN ELIMINATE MICHAEL LINCOLN AS PHOTON.
THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD'VE GOTTEN HERE FROM DR. RIDER'S HOUSE AS QUICKLY AS WE DID!
AND THAT COLLEGE GUY PETER PARKER WAS WITH ME THE SECOND TIME PHOTON STRUCK--SO THAT LETS HIM OUT!

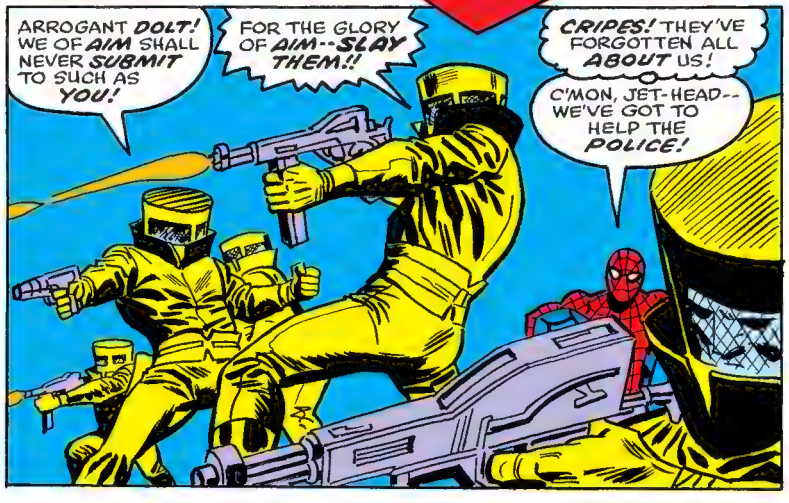

WHICH LEAVES DEAN...DAZE... AND RISK! THEY WERE ALL AT THE LIGHTHOUSE WITH US--AND THEY HAVE THE THREE STRONGEST MOTIVES!
WELL, I'VE NEVER TRUSTED DAZE MUCH! HE SAYS HE WAS SHOT BY PHOTON JUST LIKE PARKER WAS--
--BUT PARKER HAS A CUT ON HIS FOREHEAD, AND DAZE HAS ONLY A BRUISE!
SOMETHING'S FISHY ABOUT DEAN'S STORY TOO! HE SAYS HE RUSHED TO THE POLICE ONLY A MINUTE AFTER PHOTON FIRST STRUCK--!

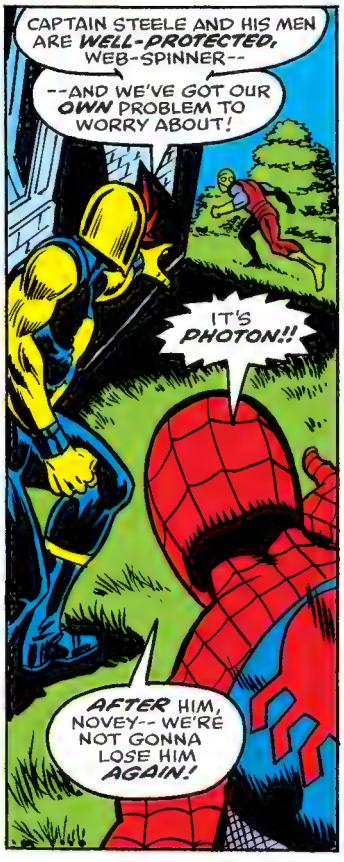

YEAH--BUT EVEN IF HE DIDN'T EXCEED THE SPEED LIMIT, HE SHOULD'VE GOTTEN THERE IN A LOT LESS TIME THAN IT TOOK HIM!
THE ONE WE KNOW THE LEAST ABOUT IS RISK--AND I WOULDN'T TRUST HIM AS FAR AS I CAN BOUNCE HIM!
LOOKS LIKE THE ANSWERS ARE ALL WAITING BACK AT THE RIDER HOUSE--
--AND, IF WE GET A MOVE ON, WE MAY EVEN BE ABLE TO BEAT AIM THERE!

BUT, DESPITE THE HUMAN ROCKET'S INCOMPARABLE SPEED...
BLUE BLAZES! THEY'RE LAYING SIEGE TO THE PLACE!
AGENT-PRIME--LOOK TO THE SKY!

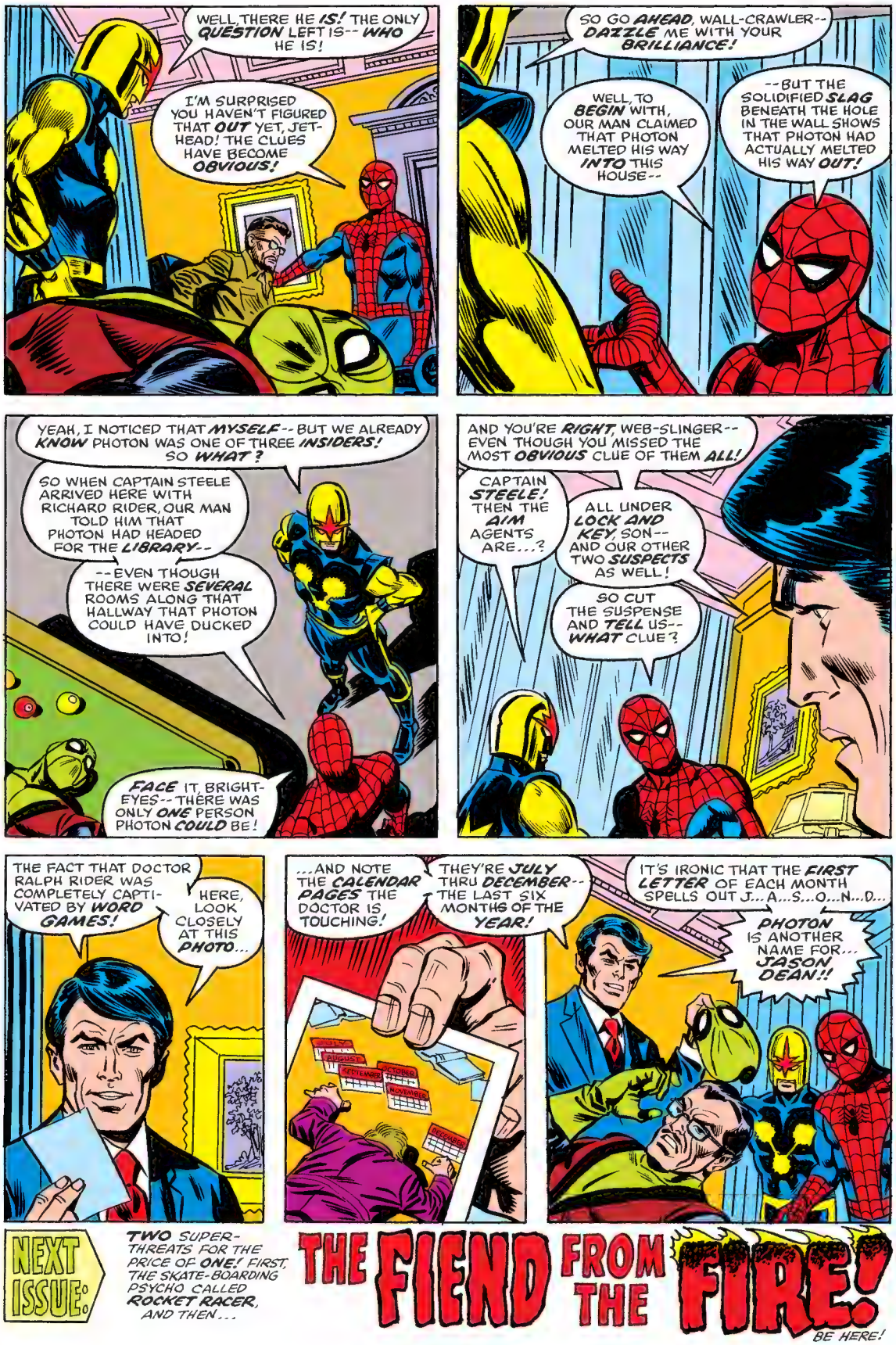

YOU CAN LOOK ALL YOU WANT TO, CAN-DOME--
--BUT ALL YOU'RE GONNA SEE ARE STARS!!
BROK!
THWIP!
SPAK!
THAT'S ASSUMING THEY CAN SEE AT ALL, NOVA--
--WITH THEIR FACES FULL OF WEBBING!
STOP THEM, YOU FOOLS! THIS TIME WE WILL MAKE CERTAIN OF THEIR DEATHS!


ATTENTION, EVERYONE AT THE RIDER HOUSE! THIS IS THE SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE!
YOU ARE ALL SURROUNDED! THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPONS--AND COME FORTH WITH YOUR HANDS UP!


ARROGANT DOLT! WE OF AIM SHALL NEVER SUBMIT TO SUCH AS YOU!
FOR THE GLORY OF AIM--SLAY THEM!!
CRIPES! THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US!
C'MON, JET-HEAD--WE'VE GOT TO HELP THE POLICE!


CAPTAIN STEELE AND HIS MEN ARE WELL-PROTECTED, WEB-SPINNER--
--AND WE'VE GOT OUR OWN PROBLEM TO WORRY ABOUT!
IT'S PHOTON!!
AFTER HIM, NOVEY-- WE'RE NOT GONNA LOSE HIM AGAIN!

AND, MOMENTS LATER, DOWN IN THE RIDER GAMEROOM...
NOVA?! SPIDER-MAN?! WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
BLUE BLAZES! IT'S MY DAD! HE MUST'VE GOTTEN HERE JUST BEFORE AIM SHOWED UP!
ER--MR. RIDER, YOU'D BETTER GET TO SAFETY AS QUICK AS POSSIBLE, SIR.
THERE'S A DANGEROUS MURDERER ON THE LOOSE HERE AND...
...AND HE HOLDS THE LIFE OF THIS UNWITTING FOOL IN HIS HANDS!
WHAT--? WHO ARE YOU?
THE NAME IS PHOTON, MISTER--
--AND UNLESS YOUR FRIENDS PUT UP THEIR HANDS, YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!
EASY, ACE--THEY'RE UP!
YEAH, PHOTON, I'VE PUT MY HANDS UP--
--BUT MY WHOLE ENTIRE BODY JUST NATURALLY WENT ALONG WITH 'EM!
BLAST! HE'S MOVING TOO FAST!
I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON HIM!
THAT'S THE IDEA, CHUCKLES! NOVA DISTRACTED YOU JUST LONG ENOUGH--
--FOR ME TO PUT THE SNATCH ON YOUR CAPTIVE!
AND WITHOUT MISTER RIDER UNDER YOUR GUN, BUSTER--
--THERE'S NOTHING THAT CAN STOP ME FROM TOTALLING YOU!!
POW!
UUNNFF!!


WELL, THERE HE IS! THE ONLY QUESTION LEFT IS-- WHO HE IS!
I'M SURPRISED YOU HAVEN'T FIGURED THAT OUT YET, JET-HEAD! THE CLUES HAVE BECOME OBVIOUS!
SO GO AHEAD, WALL-CRAWLER-- DAZZLE ME WITH YOUR BRILLIANCE!
WELL, TO BEGIN WITH, OUR MAN CLAIMED THAT PHOTON MELTED HIS WAY INTO THIS HOUSE--
--BUT THE SOLIDIFIED SLAG BENEATH THE HOLE IN THE WALL SHOWS THAT PHOTON HAD ACTUALLY MELTED HIS WAY OUT!
YEAH, I NOTICED THAT MYSELF-- BUT WE ALREADY KNOW PHOTON WAS ONE OF THREE INSIDERS! SO WHAT?
SO WHEN CAPTAIN STEELE ARRIVED HERE WITH RICHARD RIDER, OUR MAN TOLD HIM THAT PHOTON HAD HEADED FOR THE LIBRARY--
--EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE SEVERAL ROOMS ALONG THAT HALLWAY THAT PHOTON COULD HAVE DUCKED INTO!
FACE IT, BRIGHT-EYES-- THERE WAS ONLY ONE PERSON PHOTON COULD BE!
AND YOU'RE RIGHT, WEB-SLINGER-- EVEN THOUGH YOU MISSED THE MOST OBVIOUS CLUE OF THEM ALL!
CAPTAIN STEELE! THEN THE AIM AGENTS ARE...?
ALL UNDER LOCK AND KEY, SON-- AND OUR OTHER TWO SUSPECTS AS WELL!
SO CUT THE SUSPENSE AND TELL US-- WHAT CLUE?
THE FACT THAT DOCTOR RALPH RIDER WAS COMPLETELY CAPTIVATED BY WORD GAMES!
HERE, LOOK CLOSELY AT THIS PHOTO...
...AND NOTE THE CALENDAR PAGES THE DOCTOR IS TOUCHING!
THEY'RE JULY THRU DECEMBER-- THE LAST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR!
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
IT'S IRONIC THAT THE FIRST LETTER OF EACH MONTH SPELLS OUT J...A...S...O...N...D...
PHOTON IS ANOTHER NAME FOR... JASON DEAN!!
NEXT ISSUE
TWO SUPER-THREATS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE! FIRST, THE SKATE-BOARDING PSYCHO CALLED ROCKET RACER, AND THEN...
THE FIEND FROM THE FIRE!
BE HERE!

SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL
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The AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN®
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TRAPPED
BY THE MOST SINISTER FOES OF ALL!
SPAWN OF THE SPIDER!
A BONUS-LENGTH SHOCKER!

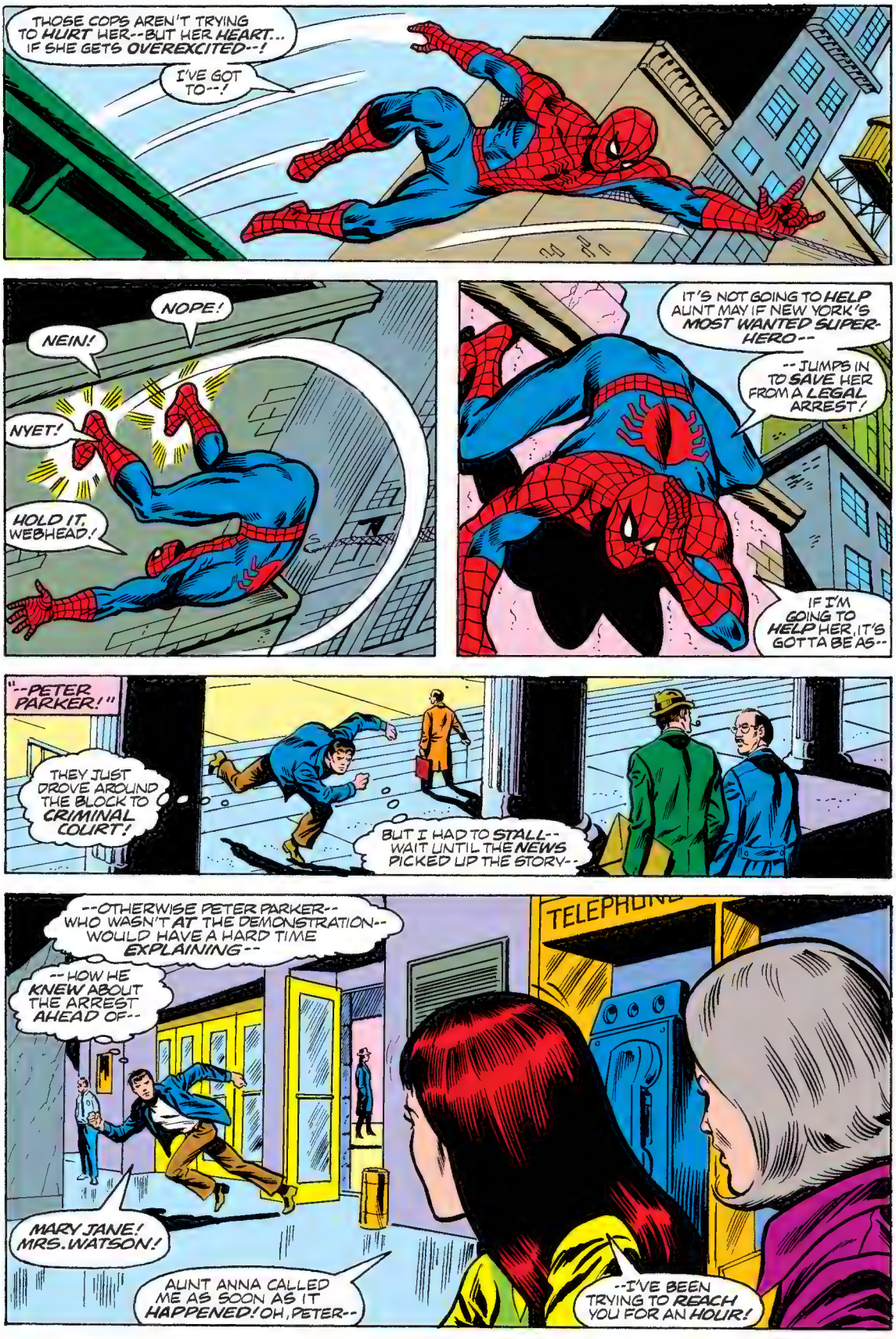
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

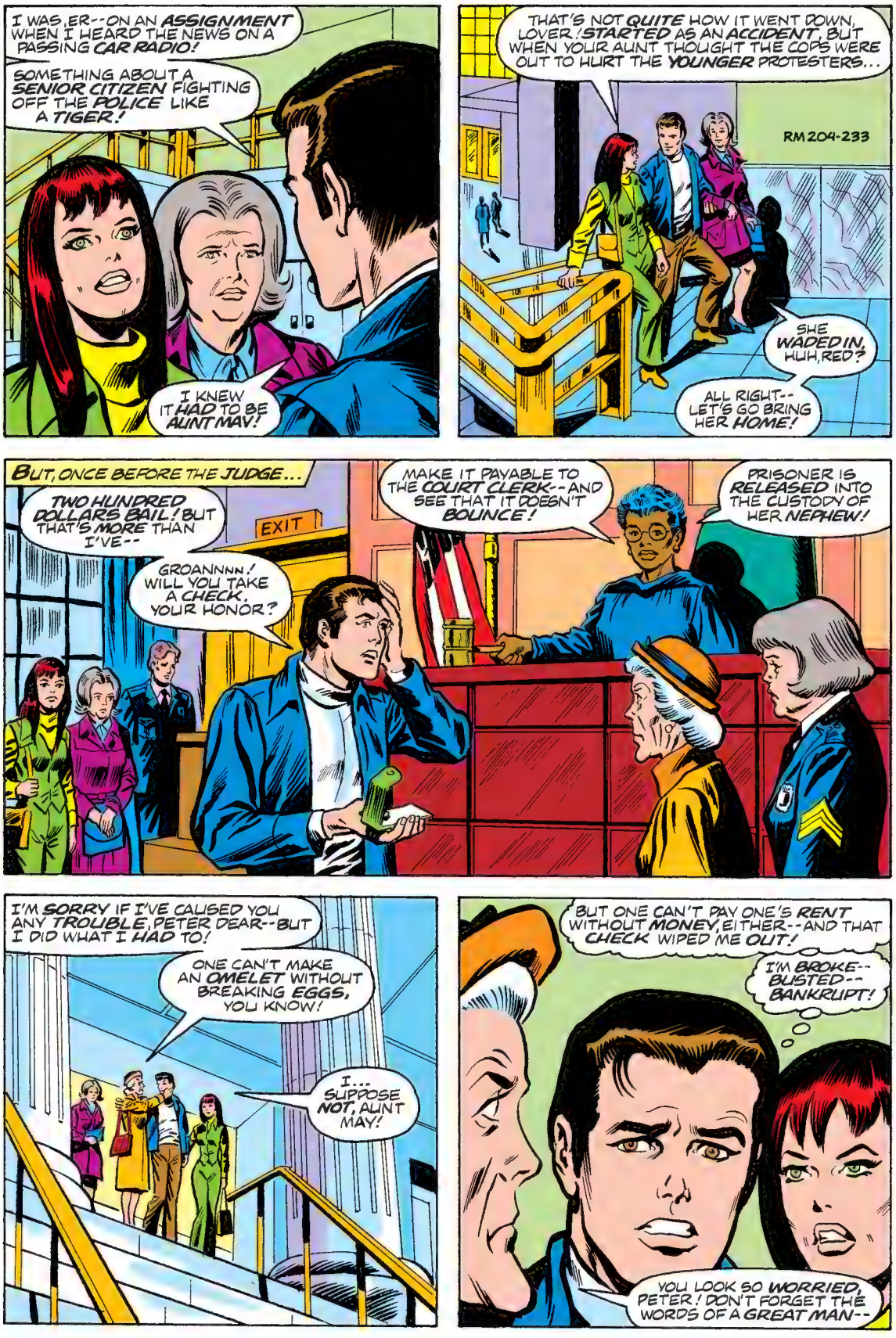
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

BILL MANTLO / WRITER | DON PERLIN / ARTIST | JIM MOONEY / INKER | B. PATTERSON / DON WARFIELD / LETTERER / COLORIST | ARCHIE GOODWIN / PLOT / EDITOR

SPAWN OF THE SPIDER
S-U-M-MERTI-I-IME, AN' THE LIVIN' IS EASY--OR SO THE SONG GOES.
VREEEEEE!
NOW TRY SINGING IT WITH WAILING POLICE SIRENS PROVIDING A CHORUS!
I KNEW THIS PEACE AND QUIET WOULDN'T LAST! WITH THE MERCURY TOPPING 98°--
--SOONER OR LATER SOMEBODY HAS TO POP HIS CORK AND DO SOMETHING ILLEGAL!
GUESS I'LL JUST SWING MY SWEATY SELF AFTER THEM--

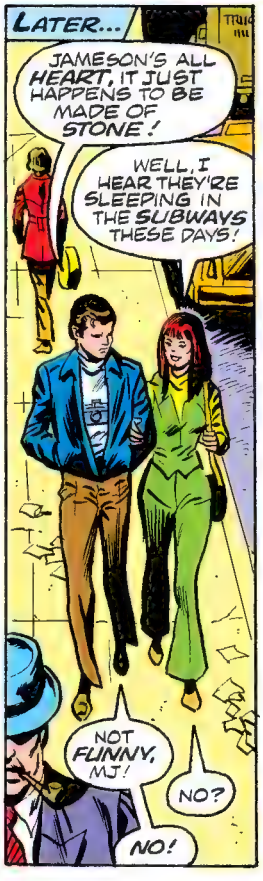
--AND CHECK OUT WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS...A DEMONSTRATION AT CITY HALL!
LOOKS LIKE EVERY GROUP WITH A GRIEVANCE IS HERE TO SEE THE MAYOR!
AND IN THIS HEAT IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE PUSH COMES TO SHOVE!
N.Y.P.D.
WAIT! I RECOGNIZE ONE OF THE DEMONSTRATORS! IT'S--
--AUNT MAY???
FOR SENIO
GREY PANT
WHAP
MAY! WHAT ON EARTH--?
HEY, LADY! WHAT GIVES?
SHOW THEM THE SPIRIT OF A GREY PANTHER, MS. PARKER!
BUT--BUT SOMEBODY PUSHED ME AND I JUST...TRIPPED!
H-HOLY HECK! THEY-- THEY'RE ARRESTING MY AUNT MAY!
LET ME GO, YOU YOUNG BULLIES!
TELL IT TO THE JUDGE, GRANDMA!
HE GETS PAID TO HEAR IT!
KLUNK
WAP
POLIC
TACTICA
FORCE
CHARLEY--GET THAT SIGN AWAY FROM HER, WILLYA?


THOSE COPS AREN'T TRYING TO HURT HER--BUT HER HEART... IF SHE GETS OVEREXCITED--!
I'VE GOT TO--!
NOPE!
NEIN!
NYET!
HOLD IT, WEBHEAD!
IT'S NOT GOING TO HELP AUNT MAY IF NEW YORK'S MOST WANTED SUPER-HERO--
--JUMPS IN TO SAVE HER FROM A LEGAL ARREST!
IF I'M GOING TO HELP HER, IT'S GOTTA BE AS--
"--PETER PARKER!"
THEY JUST DROVE AROUND THE BLOCK TO CRIMINAL COURT!
BUT I HAD TO STALL--WAIT UNTIL THE NEWS PICKED UP THE STORY--
--OTHERWISE PETER PARKER--WHO WASN'T AT THE DEMONSTRATION--WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME EXPLAINING--
--HOW HE KNEW ABOUT THE ARREST AHEAD OF--
TELEPHONE
MARY JANE! MRS. WATSON!
AUNT ANNA CALLED ME AS SOON AS IT HAPPENED! OH, PETER--
--I'VE BEEN TRYING TO REACH YOU FOR AN HOUR!


I WAS, ER--ON AN ASSIGNMENT WHEN I HEARD THE NEWS ON A PASSING CAR RADIO!
SOMETHING ABOUT A SENIOR CITIZEN FIGHTING OFF THE POLICE LIKE A TIGER!
I KNEW IT HAD TO BE AUNT MAY!
THAT'S NOT QUITE HOW IT WENT DOWN, LOVER! STARTED AS AN ACCIDENT, BUT WHEN YOUR AUNT THOUGHT THE COPS WERE OUT TO HURT THE YOUNGER PROTESTERS...
RM 204-233
SHE WADED IN, HUH, RED?
ALL RIGHT-- LET'S GO BRING HER HOME!
BUT, ONCE BEFORE THE JUDGE...
TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS BAIL! BUT THAT'S MORE THAN I'VE--
EXIT
GROANNNN! WILL YOU TAKE A CHECK, YOUR HONOR?
MAKE IT PAYABLE TO THE COURT CLERK-- AND SEE THAT IT DOESN'T BOUNCE!
PRISONER IS RELEASED INTO THE CUSTODY OF HER NEPHEW!
I'M SORRY IF I'VE CAUSED YOU ANY TROUBLE, PETER DEAR-- BUT I DID WHAT I HAD TO!
ONE CAN'T MAKE AN OMELET WITHOUT BREAKING EGGS, YOU KNOW!
I... SUPPOSE NOT, AUNT MAY!
BUT ONE CAN'T PAY ONE'S RENT WITHOUT MONEY, EITHER--AND THAT CHECK WIPED ME OUT!
I'M BROKE-- BUSTED-- BANKRUPT!
YOU LOOK SO WORRIED, PETER! DON'T FORGET THE WORDS OF A GREAT MAN--

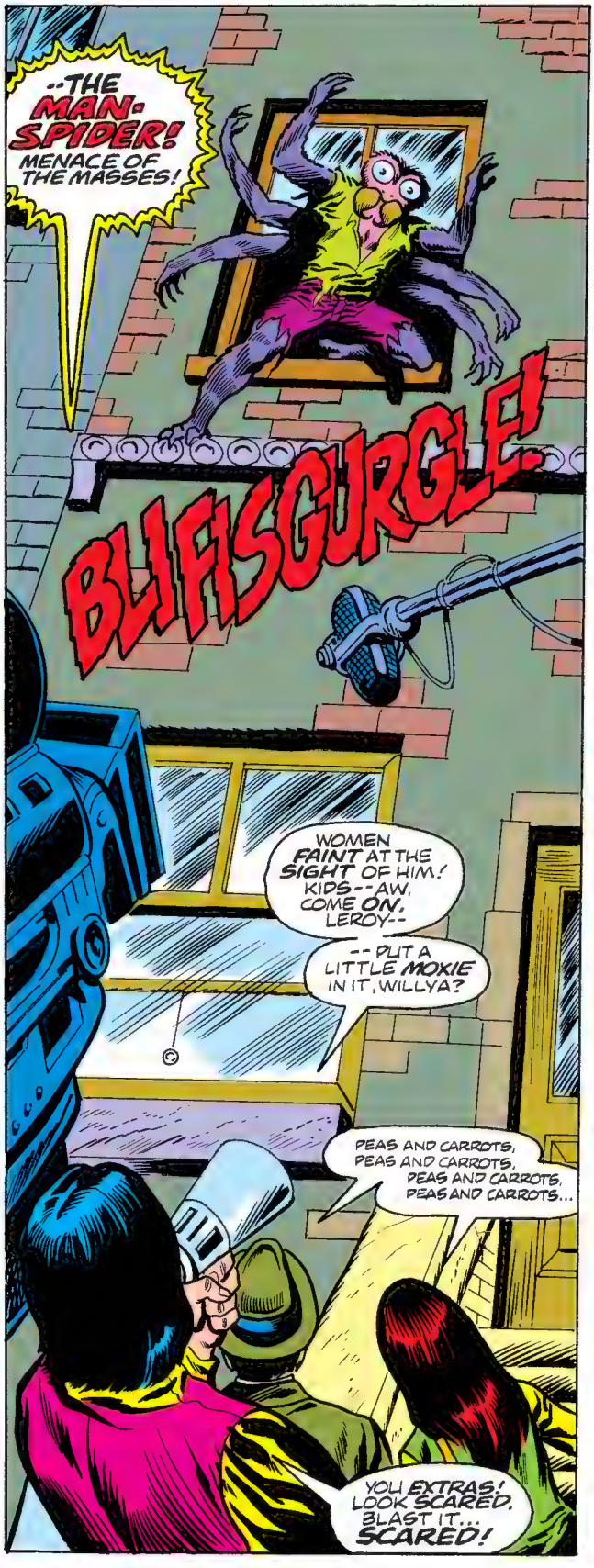
"--WE SHALL OVERCOME!"
ADVANCE??!
JUST ONE WORD, PARKER! OUT!
O-U-T!
OUT!

YOU WANT A HANDOUT, TRY THE SALVATION ARMY! THIS IS A NEWSPAPER, MISTER... AND WE'RE IN A SUMMER SLUMP!
YOU WANT MONEY... TAKE PHOTOS! BUT THEY BETTER BE PULITZER PRIZE STUFF--
--BECAUSE YOU'RE OVERSTOCKED WITH MY SUPER-HERO/SUPER-VILLAIN PICS! I KNOW, I KNOW, JONAH--!
--YOU GAVE ME THE SAME RAP LAST WEEK!


LATER...
JAMESON'S ALL HEART, IT JUST HAPPENS TO BE MADE OF STONE!
WELL, I HEAR THEY'RE SLEEPING IN THE SUBWAYS THESE DAYS!
NOT FUNNY, MJ!
NO?
NO!

SO WHY NOT COME WITH ME? I JUST GOT A JOB AS A CROWD-EXTRA IN A BIG-BUDGET HORROR FLICK!
"SPAWN OF THE SPIDER!" ART IT AIN'T, BUT IT'S FUN--
NO PARK ANYT
--AND IT'LL HELP TAKE YOUR MIND OFF POVERTY!

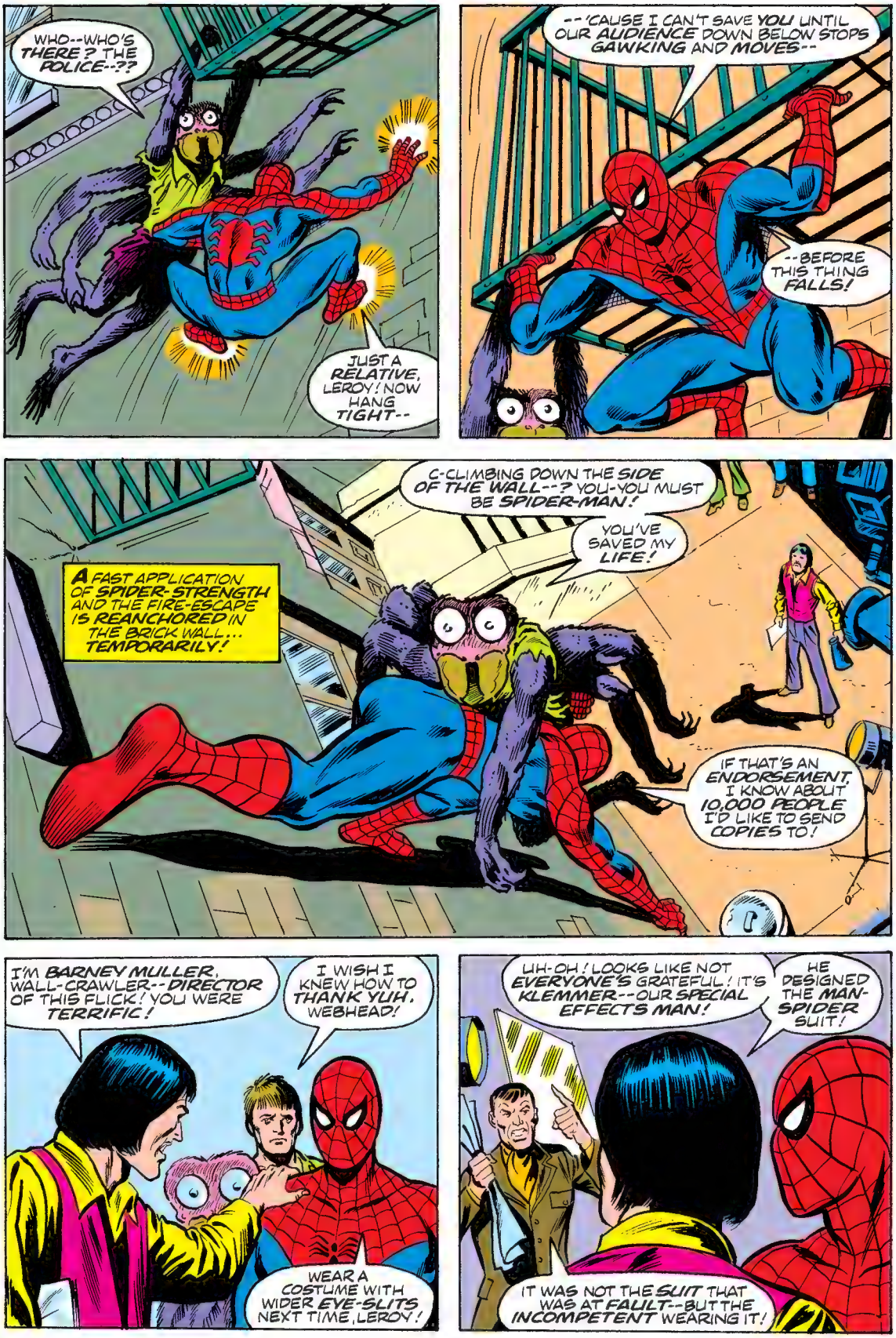
SO, A FEW HOURS LATER, HOLLYWOOD COMES TO NEW YORK WITH DELAZNY STUDIOS' LATEST PRODUCTION, "SPAWN OF THE SPIDER"!
MARY JANE WAS RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING--IT SURE AIN'T ART!
NOW, REMEMBER-- ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LOOK SCARED AND SAY "PEAS AND CARROTS" OVER AND OVER!
HUH?
YOU'RE EXTRAS, RED-- NOBODY'LL HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING ANYWAY!
GET READY! HERE COMES--

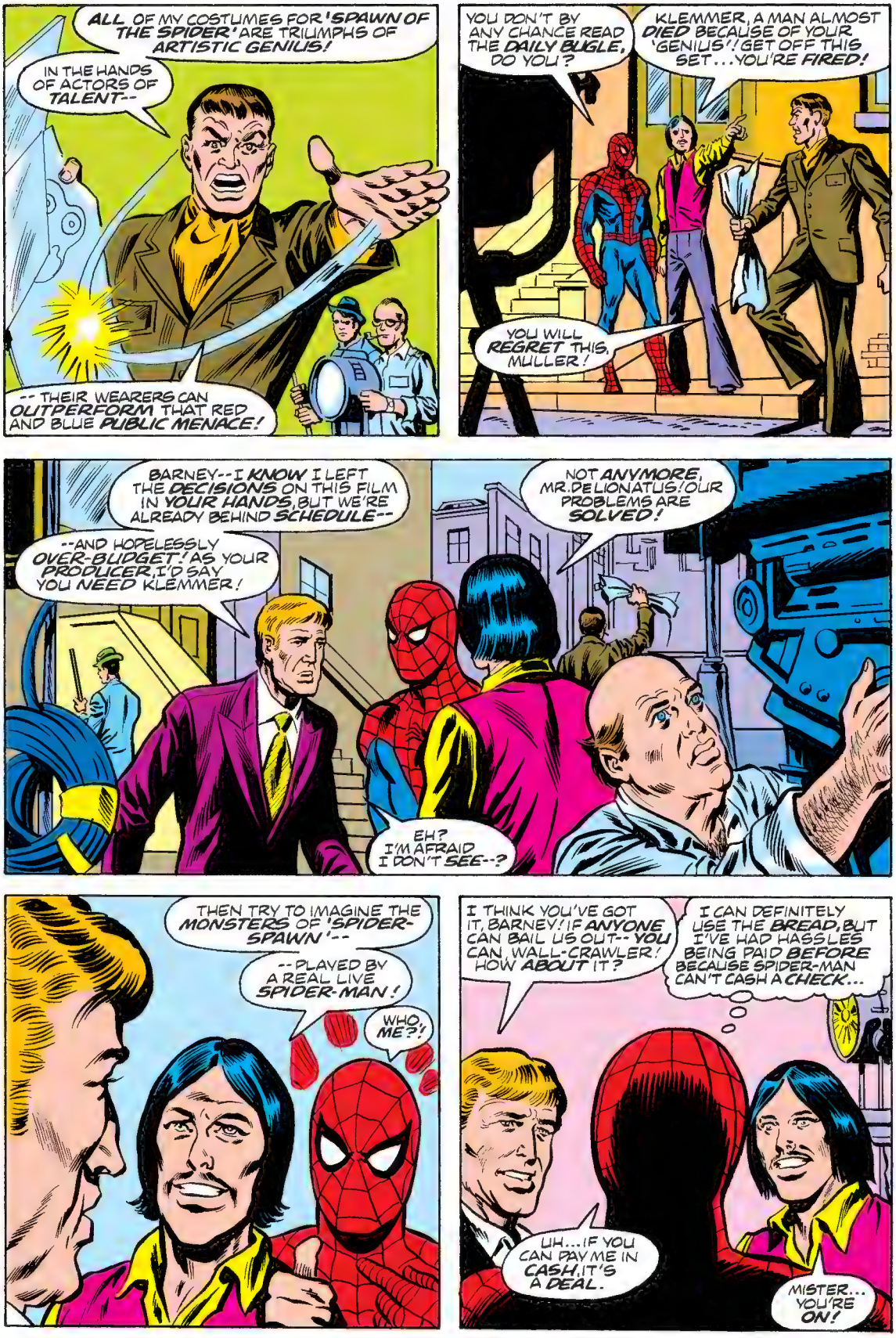

--THE MAN-SPIDER! MENACE OF THE MASSES!
BLIFSGURGLE!
WOMEN FAINT AT THE SIGHT OF HIM! KIDS--AW, COME ON, LEROY--
--PUT A LITTLE MOXIE IN IT, WILLYA?
PEAS AND CARROTS, PEAS AND CARROTS, PEAS AND CARROTS, PEAS AND CARROTS...
YOU EXTRAS! LOOK SCARED, BLAST IT... SCARED!

POOR MARY JANE... SHE LOOKS MORTIFIED! BUT WHAT IF SHE KNEW HER BROWN-EYED BOYFRIEND ONCE SPORTED JUST AS MANY ARMS AS THAT STUNTMAN?*
I'D STILL HAVE THEM IF NOT FOR A BLOOD ENZYME FROM MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE!
*SEE MARVEL TREASURY #14, STILL ON SALE--ARCHIE.

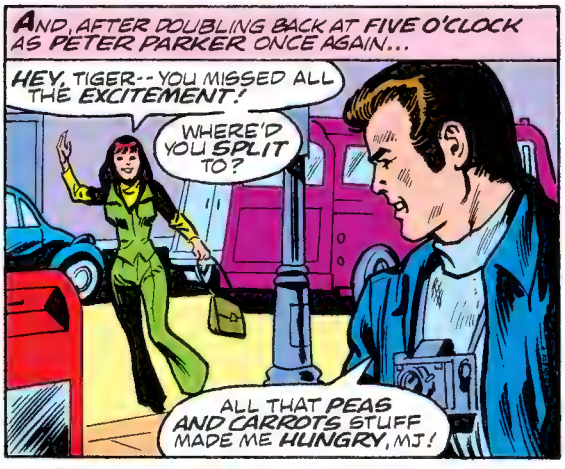
MOVE ALONG THE LEDGE, LEROY! STOP FLAPPING YOUR ARMS!
TRY TO LOOK LIKE A SPIDER, NOT AN ACROPHOBIC ACTOR!
I-I CAN'T BREATHE IN THIS COSTUME, BARNEY.
CAN'T SEE TOO WELL EITHER!
F-FEEL LIKE I'M GONNA--

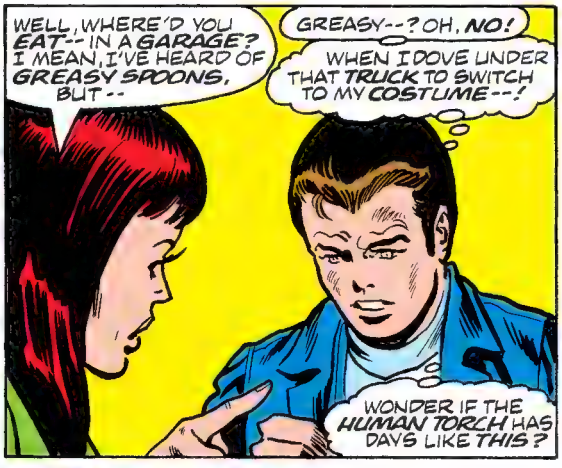
--F-FALL!
THE FIRE-ESCAPE, MAN! GRAB FOR THE--
GOT IT, BARNEY! BUT... THIS COSTUME MAKES IT HARD TO HANG ON!
SKRKK
B-BARNEY-- W-WHAT'S THAT SOUND...??
GOOD LORD--THE WALL OF THAT ABANDONED TENEMENT COULDN'T TAKE THE SUDDEN WEIGHT ON THE FIRE-ESCAPE!
DELAZNY
UNIT 1
THAT STUNTMAN HASN'T GOT A CHANCE! AND MOST OF THOSE AWED RUBBER-NECKERS COULD GET HURT TOO--
--UNLESS I CAN DITCH MY PETER PARKER DUDS UNDER THIS SOUND TRUCK--
--AND COME OUT SPIDER-MAN ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE!
WELL, I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A STAR!
HEY! I JUST REALIZED--
--THAT FIRE ESCAPE BUSINESS AIN'T PART'A THE MOVIE!


WHO--WHO'S THERE? THE POLICE--??
JUST A RELATIVE, LEROY! NOW HANG TIGHT--
--'CAUSE I CAN'T SAVE YOU UNTIL OUR AUDIENCE DOWN BELOW STOPS GAWKING AND MOVES--
--BEFORE THIS THING FALLS!
A FAST APPLICATION OF SPIDER-STRENGTH AND THE FIRE-ESCAPE IS REANCHORED IN THE BRICK WALL... TEMPORARILY!
C-CLIMBING DOWN THE SIDE OF THE WALL--? YOU-YOU MUST BE SPIDER-MAN!
YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE!
IF THAT'S AN ENDORSEMENT, I KNOW ABOUT 10,000 PEOPLE I'D LIKE TO SEND COPIES TO!
I'M BARNEY MULLER, WALL-CRAWLER--DIRECTOR OF THIS FLICK! YOU WERE TERRIFIC!
I WISH I KNEW HOW TO THANK YUH, WEBHEAD!
WEAR A COSTUME WITH WIDER EYE-SLITS NEXT TIME, LEROY!
UH-OH! LOOKS LIKE NOT EVERYONE'S GRATEFUL! IT'S KLEMMER--OUR SPECIAL EFFECTS MAN!
HE DESIGNED THE MAN-SPIDER SUIT!
IT WAS NOT THE SUIT THAT WAS AT FAULT--BUT THE INCOMPETENT WEARING IT!


ALL OF MY COSTUMES FOR 'SPAWN OF THE SPIDER' ARE TRIUMPHS OF ARTISTIC GENIUS!
IN THE HANDS OF ACTORS OF TALENT--
-- THEIR WEARERS CAN OUTPERFORM THAT RED AND BLUE PUBLIC MENACE!
YOU DON'T BY ANY CHANCE READ THE DAILY BUGLE, DO YOU?
KLEMMER, A MAN ALMOST DIED BECAUSE OF YOUR 'GENIUS'! GET OFF THIS SET...YOU'RE FIRED!
YOU WILL REGRET THIS, MULLER!
BARNEY--I KNOW I LEFT THE DECISIONS ON THIS FILM IN YOUR HANDS, BUT WE'RE ALREADY BEHIND SCHEDULE--
--AND HOPELESSLY OVER-BUDGET! AS YOUR PRODUCER, I'D SAY YOU NEED KLEMMER!
NOT ANYMORE, MR. DELIONATUS! OUR PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED!
EH? I'M AFRAID I DON'T SEE--?
THEN TRY TO IMAGINE THE MONSTERS OF 'SPIDER-SPAWN'--
--PLAYED BY A REAL LIVE SPIDER-MAN!
WHO, ME?!
I THINK YOU'VE GOT IT, BARNEY! IF ANYONE CAN BAIL US OUT--YOU CAN, WALL-CRAWLER! HOW ABOUT IT?
I CAN DEFINITELY USE THE BREAD, BUT I'VE HAD HASSLES BEING PAID BEFORE BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN CAN'T CASH A CHECK...
UH...IF YOU CAN PAY ME IN CASH, IT'S A DEAL.
MISTER... YOU'RE ON!

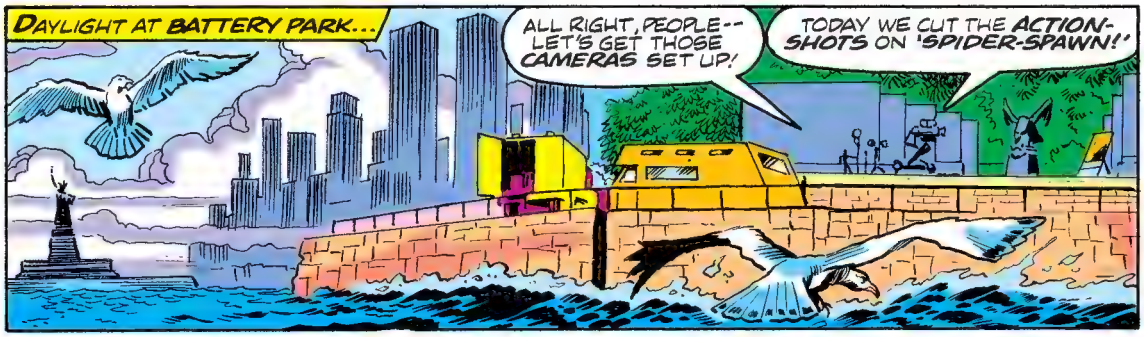
THEN YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A STAR, FELLA! SEE YOU BRIGHT AND EARLY TOMORROW!
I JUST HOPE YOU'RE NOT EXPECTING ANOTHER SYLVESTER STALLONE!

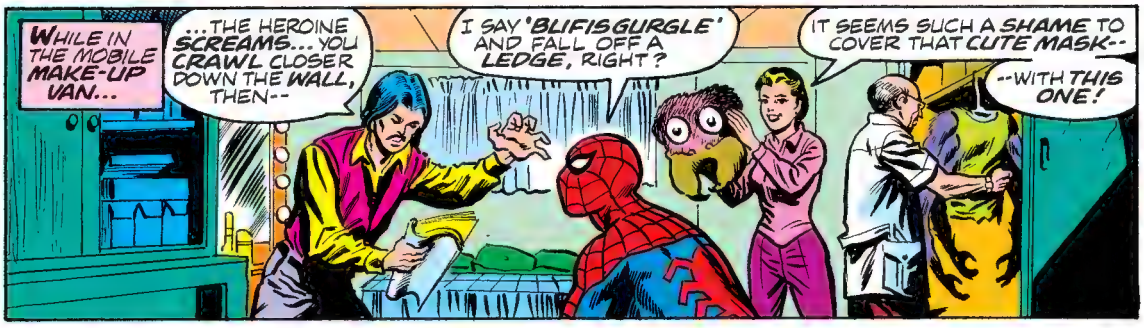

AND, AFTER DOUBLING BACK AT FIVE O'CLOCK AS PETER PARKER ONCE AGAIN...
HEY, TIGER--YOU MISSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT!
WHERE'D YOU SPLIT TO?
ALL THAT PEAS AND CARROTS STUFF MADE ME HUNGRY, MJ!


WELL, WHERE'D YOU EAT--IN A GARAGE? I MEAN, I'VE HEARD OF GREASY SPOONS, BUT--
GREASY--? OH, NO!
WHEN I DOVE UNDER THAT TRUCK TO SWITCH TO MY COSTUME--!
WONDER IF THE HUMAN TORCH HAS DAYS LIKE THIS?

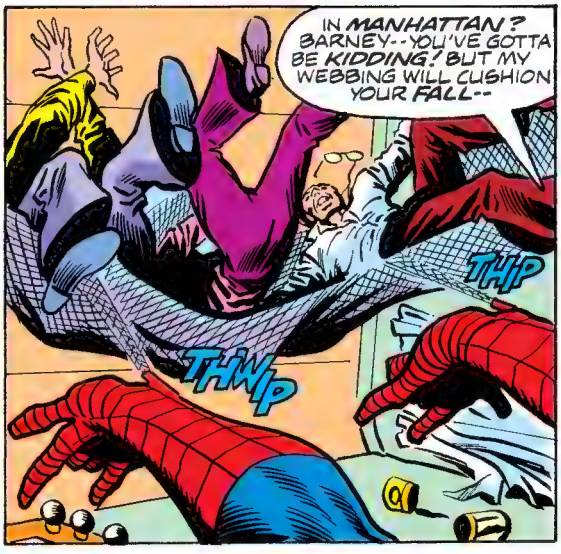
BUT IF PETE THINKS THE DAY HOLDS PROBLEMS, HE SHOULD BE IN A CERTAIN FILM COMPANY WAREHOUSE AS NIGHT FALLS...
WELL...WE'RE HERE, MISTER.
AN' ITCHIN' TA FIND OUT WHY YA RECRUITED US!
ME, I DON'T CARE--LONG AS THE PAY'S GOOD!
MONEY IS NOT ALL I AM OFFERING! YOU THREE WERE MASTER CRIMINALS COMBINING YOUR TALENTS--
--AS A STRONGMAN, ACROBAT AND TUMBLER;- UNTIL SPIDER-MAN PUT A STOP TO YOUR ACTIVITIES!
YEAH--WHAT I WOULDN'T DO TO GET EVEN WITH THAT BLASTED WALL-CRAWLER!

THEN HERE IS YOUR CHANCE, GENTLEMEN!
FOR, WITHIN THOSE CRATES LIES... POWER!
ENOUGH TO HANDLE THAT WEB-HEADED VIGILANTE-- OR ANYONE ELSE!
YOU JOKIN', MAN? NUTHIN' HERE BUT--?!
COSTUMES--PROPS THEY CONSIDERED TOO DANGEROUS TO USE IN COMPLETING 'SPAWN OF THE SPIDER'!
AND, YOU KNOW--BEFORE YOU THREE ARE FINISHED--
--YOU JUST MAY PROVE THEM RIGHT!!
HEY! THESE THINGS WORK LIKE AN EXTRA-SKELETON! MAKE YUH FEEL--
--STRONG! REAL STRONG!
LIKE EVERYTHING WE WERE HAS BEEN MAGNIFIED!
WITH THESE COSTUMES-- THESE WEAPONS-- AIN'T NUTHIN' CAN STOP US!
THEN GO FORTH, MY SPIDER-SQUAD! FOR MY REVENGE-- AND YOURS!

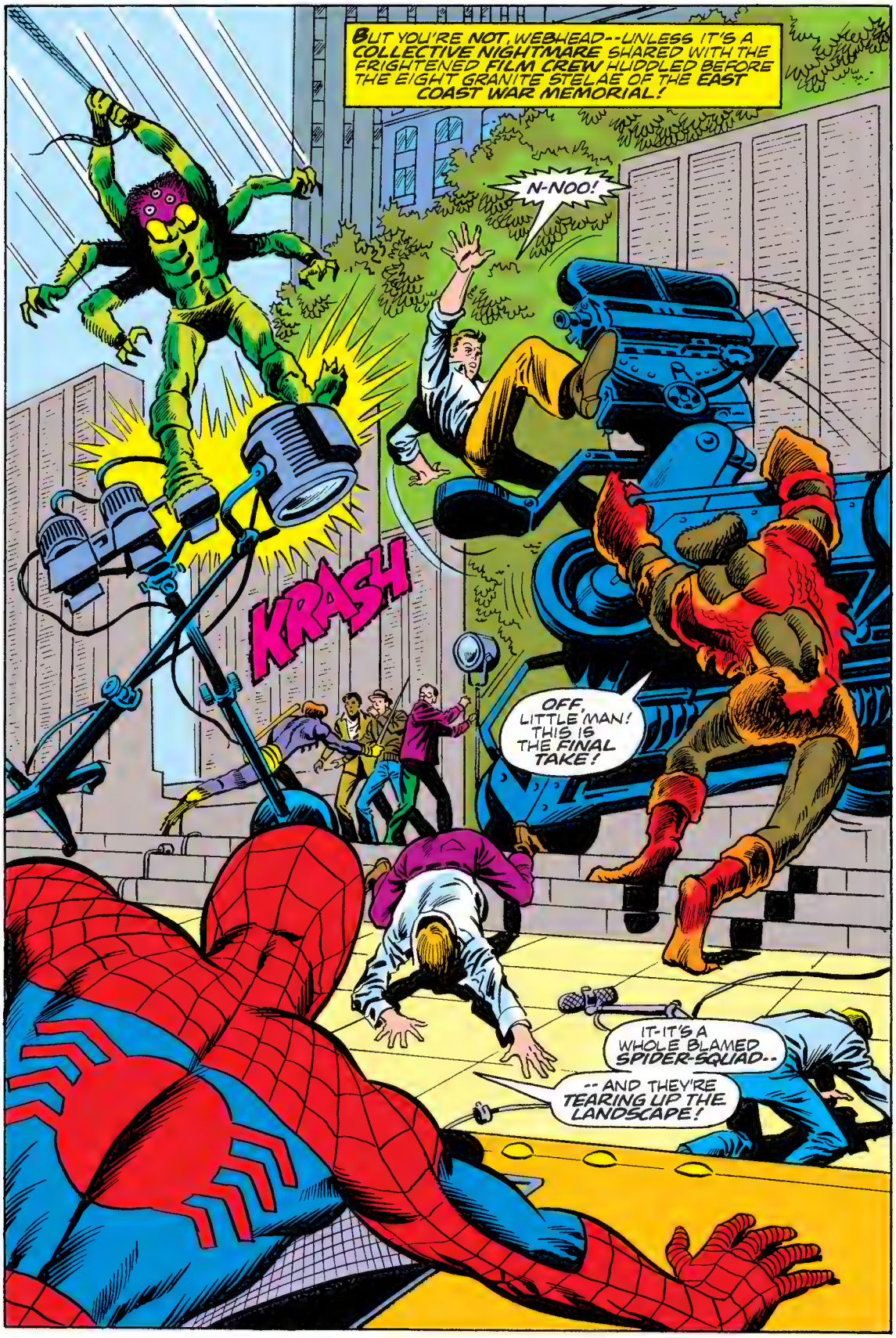

DAYLIGHT AT BATTERY PARK...
ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE--LET'S GET THOSE CAMERAS SET UP!
TODAY WE CUT THE ACTION-SHOTS ON 'SPIDER-SPAWN!'

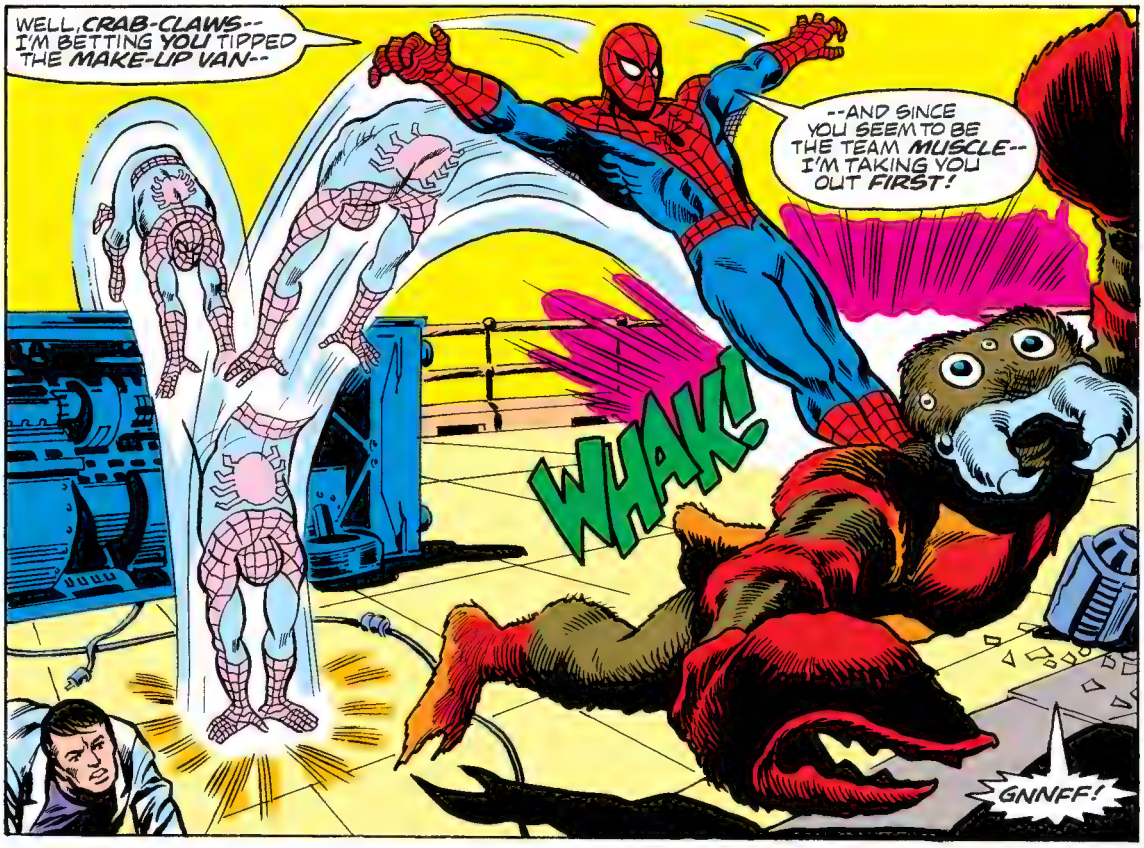

WHILE IN THE MOBILE MAKE-UP VAN...
...THE HEROINE SCREAMS... YOU CRAWL CLOSER DOWN THE WALL, THEN--
I SAY 'BLIFISGURGLE' AND FALL OFF A LEDGE, RIGHT?
IT SEEMS SUCH A SHAME TO COVER THAT CUTE MASK--
--WITH THIS ONE!

SUDDENLY...
WHAT THE HEY--?! SOMETHING'S HIT THE VAN!
WE'RE TIPPING OVER!!
IT--IT MUST BE AN EARTHQUAKE!
WHOM


IN MANHATTAN? BARNEY--YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING! BUT MY WEBBING WILL CUSHION YOUR FALL--
THIP
THWP

--WHILE I CLIMB OUT WHAT USED TO BE THE SIDE DOOR AND--
--HUH?? IT--IT CAN'T BE! I'VE GOTTA BE DREAMING!

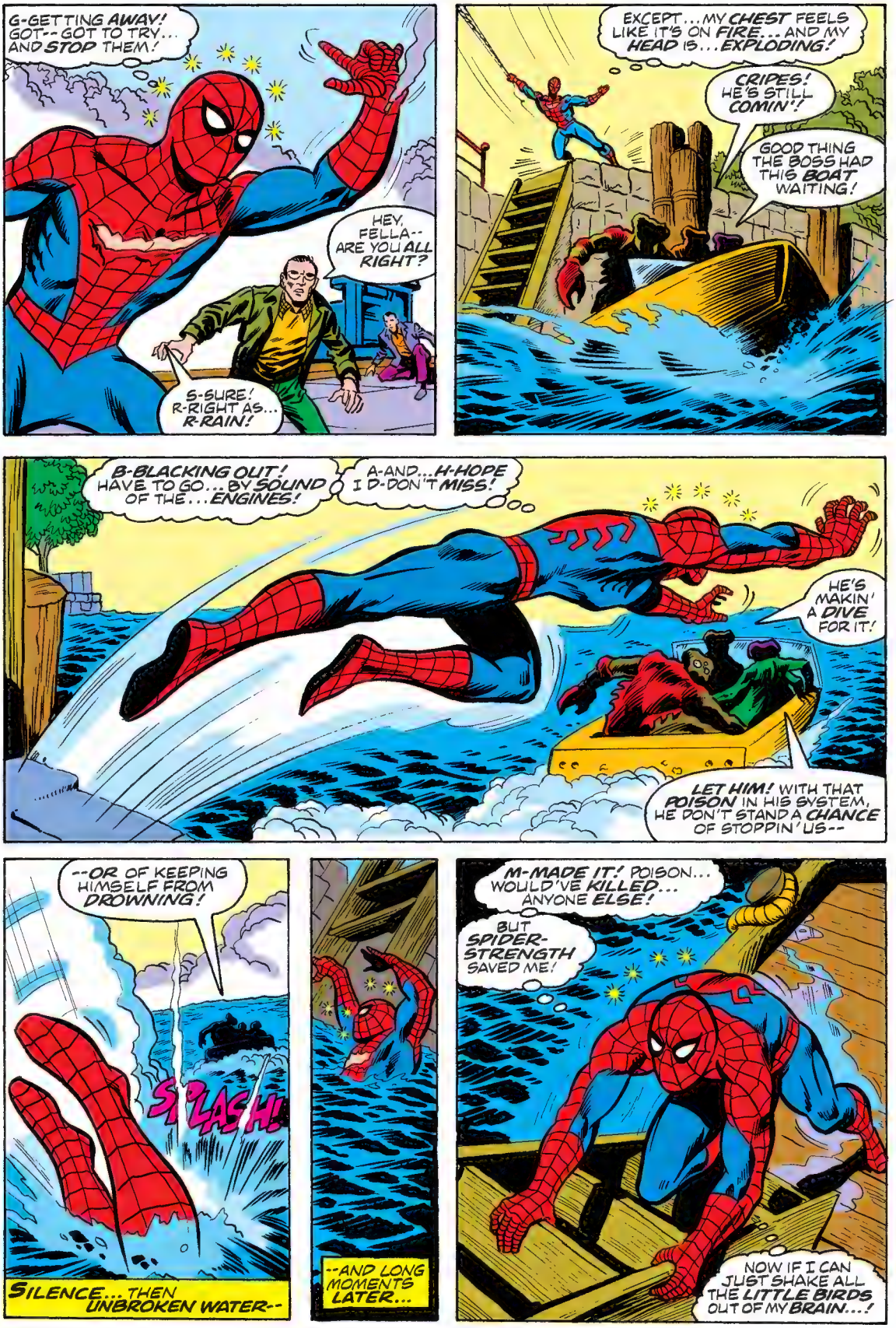

BUT YOU'RE NOT, WEBHEAD--UNLESS IT'S A COLLECTIVE NIGHTMARE SHARED WITH THE FRIGHTENED FILM CREW HUDDLED BEFORE THE EIGHT GRANITE STELAE OF THE EAST COAST WAR MEMORIAL!
N-NOO!
KRASH
OFF, LITTLE MAN! THIS IS THE FINAL TAKE!
IT-IT'S A WHOLE BLAMED SPIDER-SQUAD--
--AND THEY'RE TEARING UP THE LANDSCAPE!

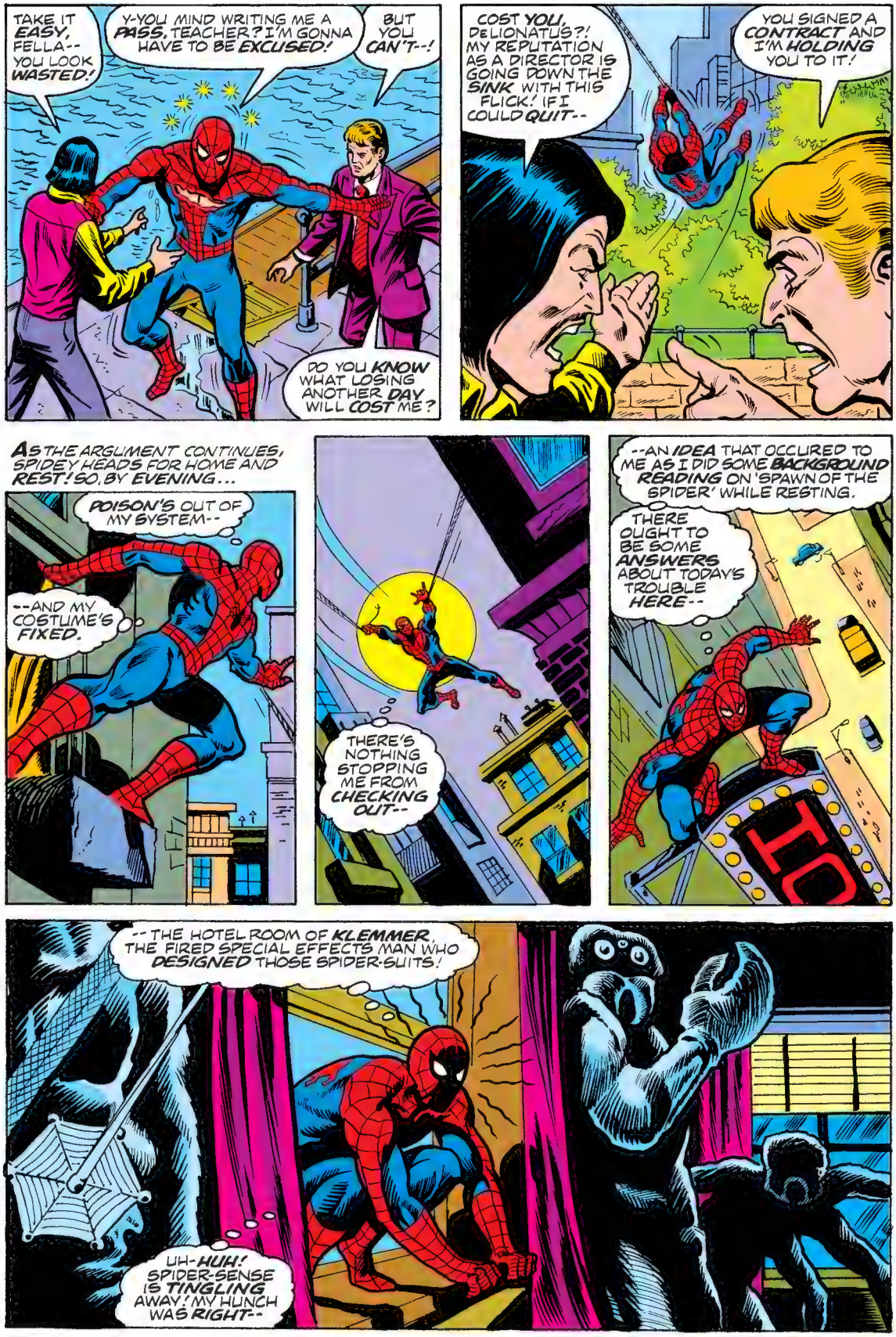

WELL, CRAB-CLAWS-- I'M BETTING YOU TIPPED THE MAKE-UP VAN--
--AND SINCE YOU SEEM TO BE THE TEAM MUSCLE-- I'M TAKING YOU OUT FIRST!
WHAK!
GNNFF!

THE HARDER THEY COME, THE HARDER THEY FALL! PUT UP THAT PENKNIFE--
--YOU ARACHNID ERROL FLYNN!
THWIP
THNK
T-THOSE COSTUMES! AREN'T THEY--?
YEAH--THE ONES KLEMMER MADE!
HE SAID HE'D GET EVEN!

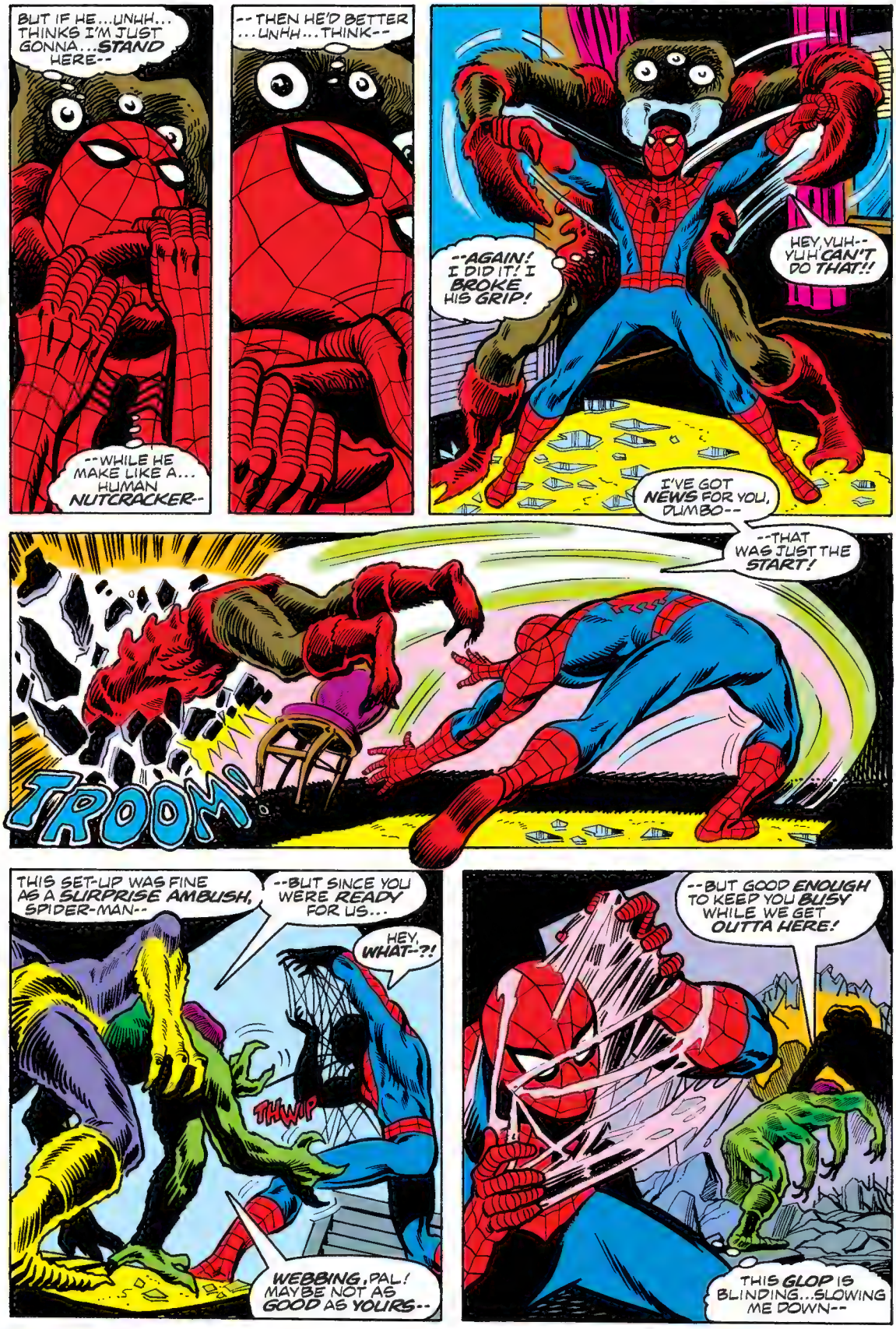
KEEP YAPPIN', WEBHEAD--BUT IN A SECOND YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT THESE SPIDER-SUITS AIN'T JUST FOR SHOW!
HIS... SUIT MUST BE A POWERFUL EXO-SKELETON! I'M PINNED!
SIX DIFFERENT WAYS!

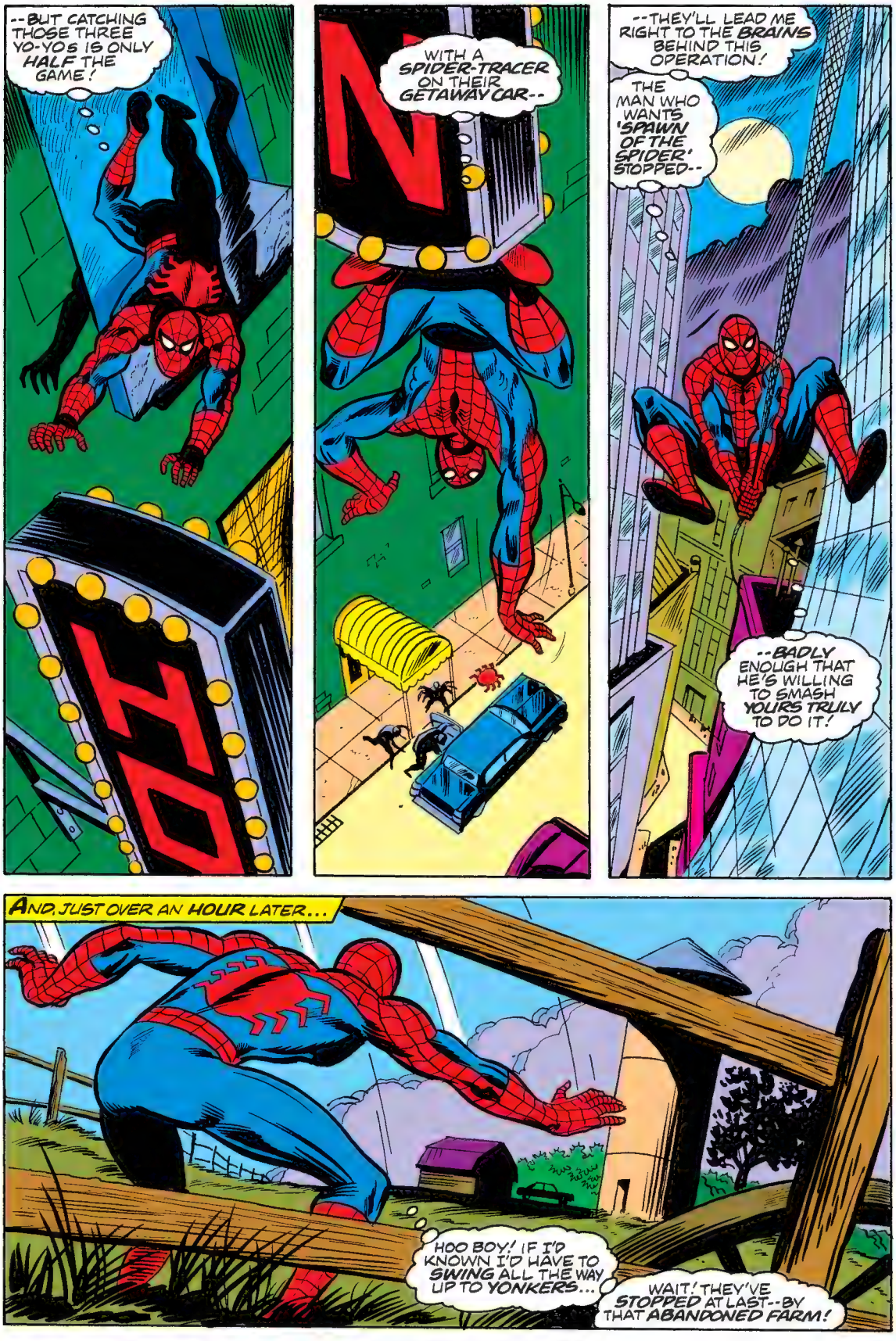
NOW, JUNIOR--WHILE I HOLD HIM! USE YOUR STINGER ON THE WALL-CRAWLING FREAK--
--AND WE'LL BE HEROES IN TOMORROW'S BUGLE!
SWISH
AGGHHH!
YA LET HIM PULL-BACK! I ONLY GRAZED HIM!
WRAK!
ONLY'S PLENTY, PIPSQUEAK--
--CAUSE YOU WENT AND MADE ME MAD... UNHHH!
WHOM
BIG DEAL, PUNK-- YOU'RE THROUGH AN' YOU KNOW IT!
GOT ME... FROM BEHIND! SPIDER-SENSE... FAILED... ME!
BLOW SHOULDN'T HAVE... HURT-- BUT SO... DIZZY!
OF--OF COURSE! SWORD-STINGER... MUST'VE BEEN... DRUGGED!

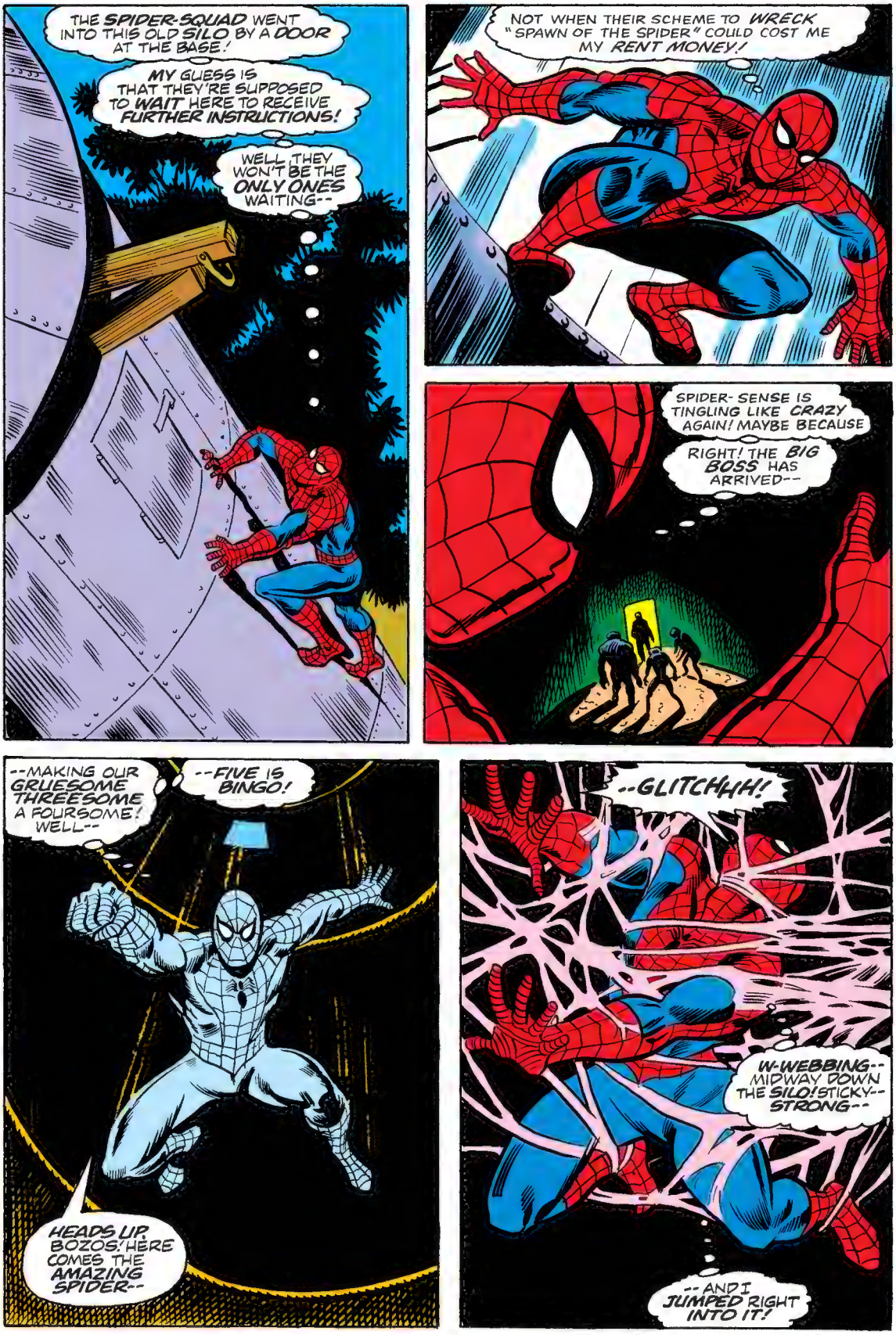

G-GETTING AWAY! GOT-- GOT TO TRY... AND STOP THEM!
HEY, FELLA-- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
S-SURE! R-RIGHT AS... R-RAIN!
EXCEPT... MY CHEST FEELS LIKE IT'S ON FIRE... AND MY HEAD IS... EXPLODING!
CRIPES! HE'S STILL COMIN'!
GOOD THING THE BOSS HAD THIS BOAT WAITING!
B-BLACKING OUT! HAVE TO GO... BY SOUND OF THE... ENGINES!
A-AND... H-HOPE I D-DON'T MISS!
HE'S MAKIN' A DIVE FOR IT!
LET HIM! WITH THAT POISON IN HIS SYSTEM, HE DON'T STAND A CHANCE OF STOPPIN' US--
--OR OF KEEPING HIMSELF FROM DROWNING!
SPLASH!
SILENCE... THEN UNBROKEN WATER--
--AND LONG MOMENTS LATER...
M-MADE IT! POISON... WOULD'VE KILLED... ANYONE ELSE!
BUT SPIDER-STRENGTH SAVED ME!
NOW IF I CAN JUST SHAKE ALL THE LITTLE BIRDS OUT OF MY BRAIN...!


TAKE IT EASY, FELLA-- YOU LOOK WASTED!
Y-YOU MIND WRITING ME A PASS, TEACHER? I'M GONNA HAVE TO BE EXCUSED!
BUT YOU CAN'T--!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT LOSING ANOTHER DAY WILL COST ME?
COST YOU, DELIONATUS?! MY REPUTATION AS A DIRECTOR IS GOING DOWN THE SINK WITH THIS FLICK! IF I COULD QUIT--
YOU SIGNED A CONTRACT AND I'M HOLDING YOU TO IT!
AS THE ARGUMENT CONTINUES, SPIDEY HEADS FOR HOME AND REST! SO, BY EVENING...
POISON'S OUT OF MY SYSTEM--
--AND MY COSTUME'S FIXED.
THERE'S NOTHING STOPPING ME FROM CHECKING OUT--
--AN IDEA THAT OCCURED TO ME AS I DID SOME BACKGROUND READING ON 'SPAWN OF THE SPIDER' WHILE RESTING.
THERE OUGHT TO BE SOME ANSWERS ABOUT TODAY'S TROUBLE HERE--
TO
-- THE HOTEL ROOM OF KLEMMER, THE FIRED SPECIAL EFFECTS MAN WHO DESIGNED THOSE SPIDER-SUITS!
UH-HUH! SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING AWAY! MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT--

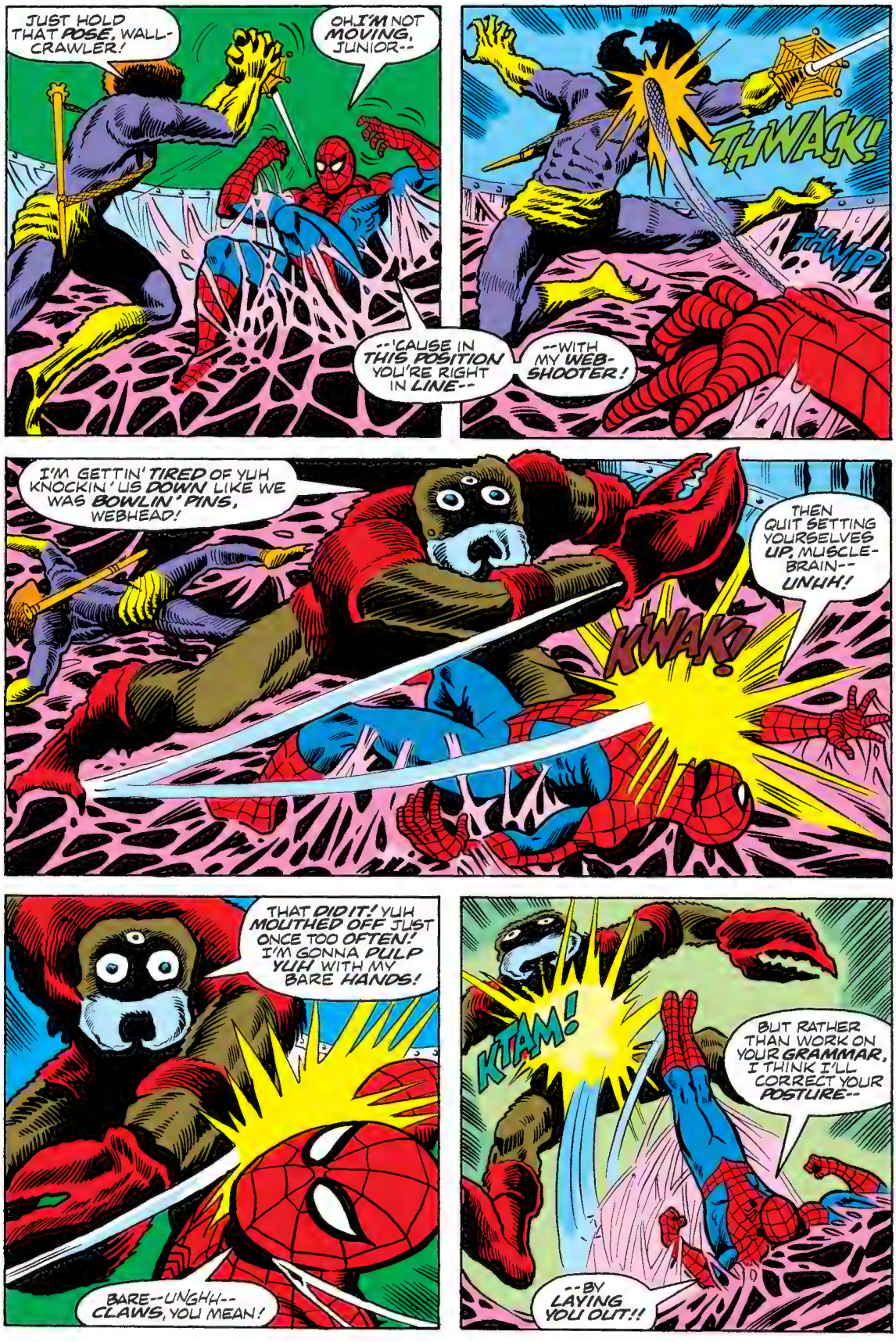
--THAT SPIDER-SQUAD IS HERE
SKTRASH!
WHAT THE--?! HOW'D HE SEE US IN THE DARK??!
I SENSED YOU, GRUESOME--
--SOMETHING YOU PSEUDO-SPIDER-MEN--
SHBAM!
--JUST AREN'T CAPABLE OF!
AMONG OTHER THINGS!
MAYBE YOU COULD TAKE OUT THEM OTHER TWO CLOWNS--BUT WITH THE POWER THIS OUTFIT GIVES ME... MY CLAWS'LL BREAK YOUR NECK!
WASN'T EXPECTING HIM! DIDN'T THINK ANYONE SO CLUMSY COULD MOVE SO FAST!

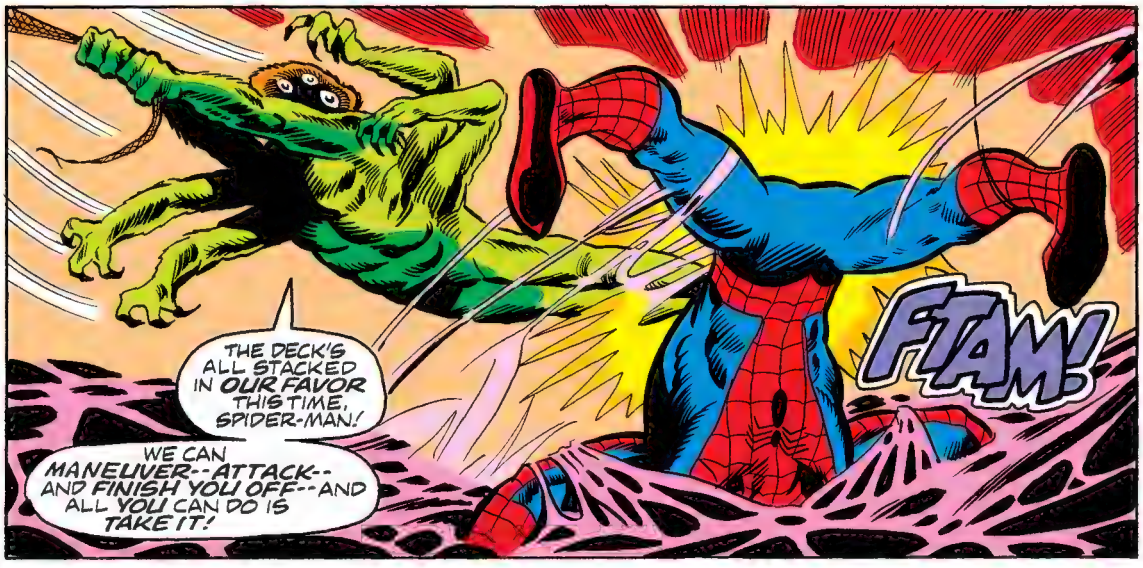

BUT IF HE...UNHH... THINKS I'M JUST GONNA...STAND HERE--
--WHILE HE MAKE LIKE A... HUMAN NUTCRACKER--
--THEN HE'D BETTER ...UNHH... THINK--
--AGAIN! I DID IT! I BROKE HIS GRIP!
HEY, YUH-- YU H CAN'T DO THAT!!
I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU, DUMBO--
--THAT WAS JUST THE START!
TROOM
THIS SET-UP WAS FINE AS A SURPRISE AMBUSH, SPIDER-MAN--
--BUT SINCE YOU WERE READY FOR US...
HEY, WHAT--?!
THWIP
WEBBING, PAL! MAYBE NOT AS GOOD AS YOURS--
--BUT GOOD ENOUGH TO KEEP YOU BUSY WHILE WE GET OUTTA HERE!
THIS GLOP IS BLINDING...SLOWING ME DOWN--

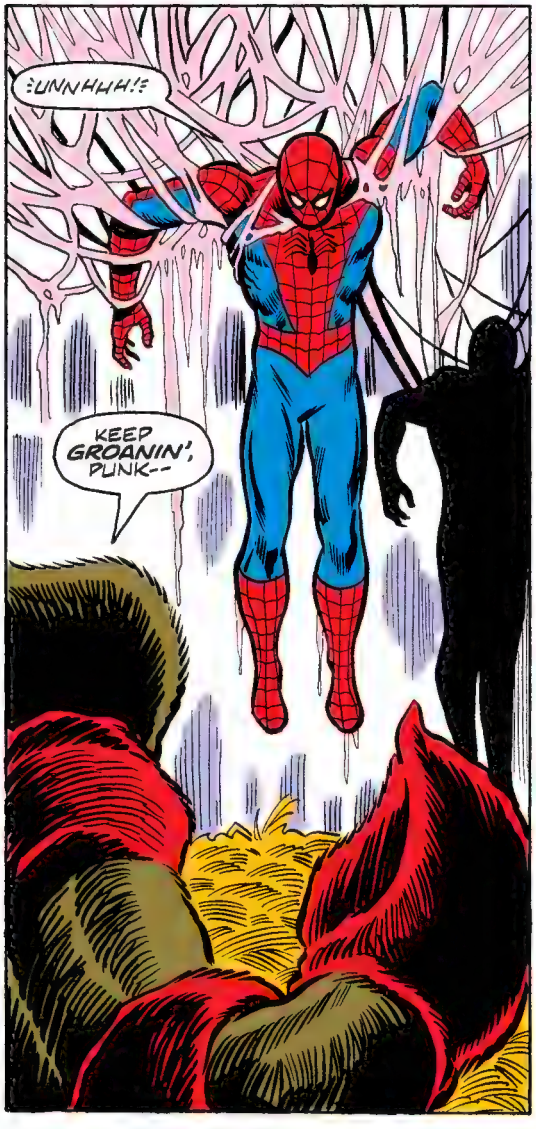

--BUT CATCHING THOSE THREE YO-YOS IS ONLY HALF THE GAME!
WITH A SPIDER-TRACER ON THEIR GETAWAY CAR--
--THEY'LL LEAD ME RIGHT TO THE BRAINS BEHIND THIS OPERATION!
THE MAN WHO WANTS 'SPAWN OF THE SPIDER' STOPPED--
--BADLY ENOUGH THAT HE'S WILLING TO SMASH YOURS TRULY TO DO IT!
AND, JUST OVER AN HOUR LATER...
HOO BOY! IF I'D KNOWN I'D HAVE TO SWING ALL THE WAY UP TO YONKERS...
WAIT! THEY'VE STOPPED AT LAST--BY THAT ABANDONED FARM!

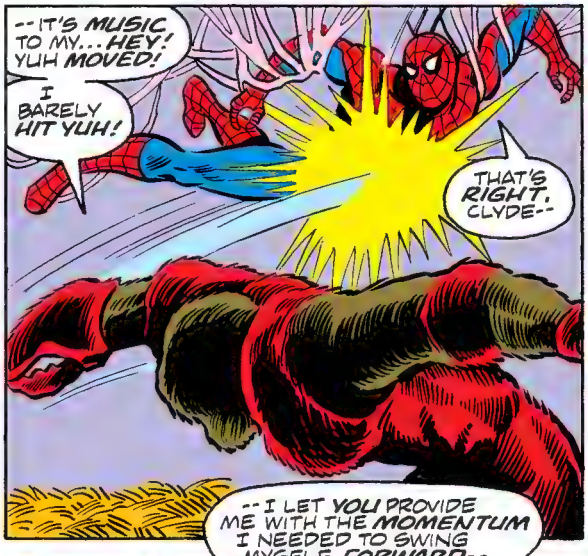

THE SPIDER-SQUAD WENT INTO THIS OLD SILO BY A DOOR AT THE BASE!
MY GUESS IS THAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO WAIT HERE TO RECEIVE FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS!
WELL THEY WON'T BE THE ONLY ONES WAITING--
NOT WHEN THEIR SCHEME TO WRECK "SPAWN OF THE SPIDER" COULD COST ME MY RENT MONEY!
SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING LIKE CRAZY AGAIN! MAYBE BECAUSE
RIGHT! THE BIG BOSS HAS ARRIVED--
--MAKING OUR GRUESOME THREESOME A FOURSOME! WELL--
--FIVE IS BINGO!
HEADS UP, BOZOS! HERE COMES THE AMAZING SPIDER--
--GLITCHHH!
W-WEBBING-- MIDWAY DOWN THE SILO! STICKY-- STRONG--
--AND I JUMPED RIGHT INTO IT!

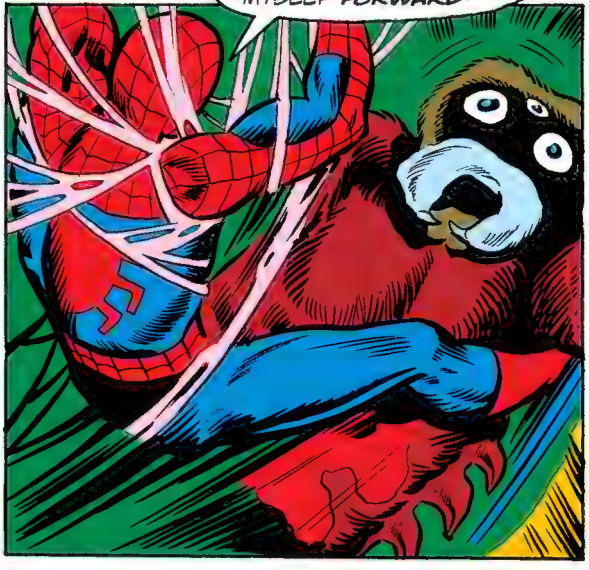
HA! DIDN'T THINK YOU'D SENSE THAT IN TIME TO AVOID IT, HOTSHOT! STRUGGLING ONLY TRAPS YOU MORE--
--AND, IN THE MEANTIME, WE'VE GOT YOU RIGHT WHERE WE WANT YOU!
DON'T WASTE TIME TALKIN'! SINCE OUR SUITS ARE SPECIALLY-TREATED SO THAT GLOP CAN'T STICK TO 'EM--
--LET'S GET UP THERE AN' GET HIM!!
YEAH-- AN' THIS TIME FOR KEEPS!
IS THIS HOW IT ENDS? TRAPPED WITH ONE OF MY OWN TECHNIQUES BY AN OFF-THE-WALL TRIO OF MEDIOCRITIES??

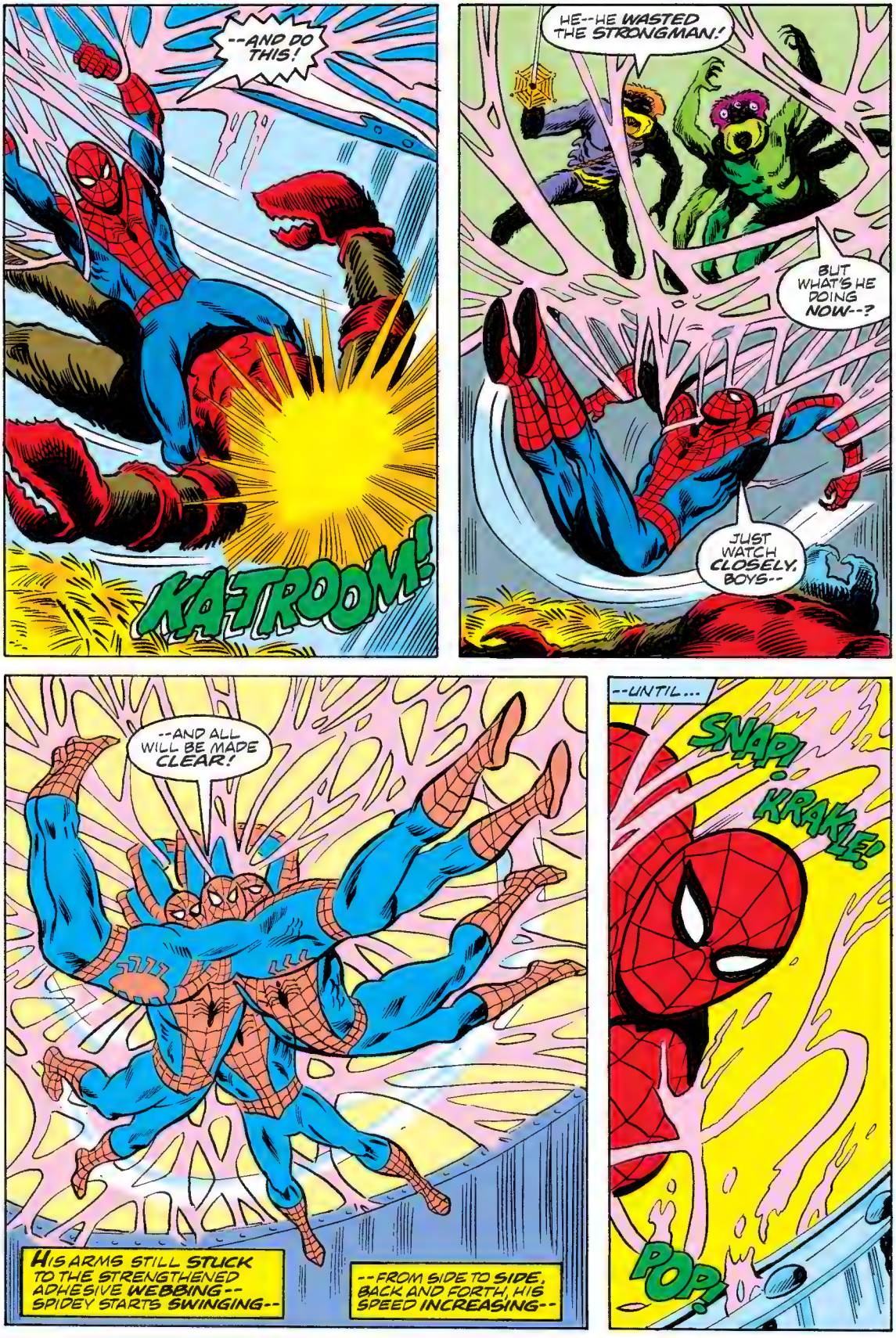

JUST HOLD THAT POSE, WALL-CRAWLER!
OH, I'M NOT MOVING, JUNIOR--
--'CAUSE IN THIS POSITION YOU'RE RIGHT IN LINE--
--WITH MY WEB-SHOOTER!
THWACK!
THWIP
I'M GETTIN' TIRED OF YUH KNOCKIN' US DOWN LIKE WE WAS BOWLIN' PINS, WEBHEAD!
THEN QUIT SETTING YOURSELVES UP, MUSCLE-BRAIN-- UNHH!
KWAK!
THAT DID IT! YUH MOUTHED OFF JUST ONCE TOO OFTEN! I'M GONNA PULP YUH WITH MY BARE HANDS!
BARE--UNGHH-- CLAWS, YOU MEAN!
KTAM!
BUT RATHER THAN WORK ON YOUR GRAMMAR, I THINK I'LL CORRECT YOUR POSTURE--
--BY LAYING YOU OUT!!

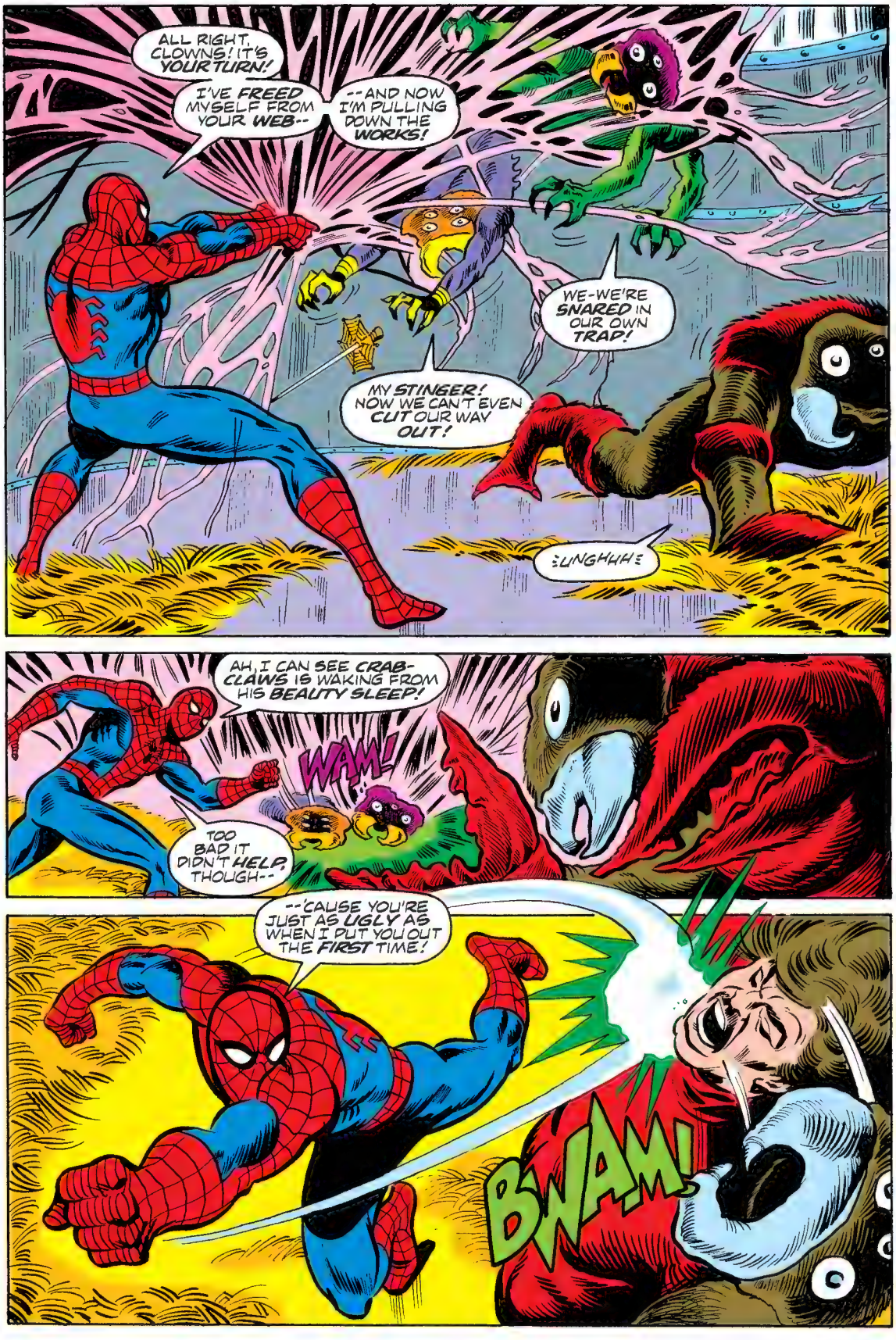

THE DECK'S ALL STACKED IN OUR FAVOR THIS TIME, SPIDER-MAN!
WE CAN MANEUVER--ATTACK--AND FINISH YOU OFF--AND ALL YOU CAN DO IS TAKE IT!
FTAM!

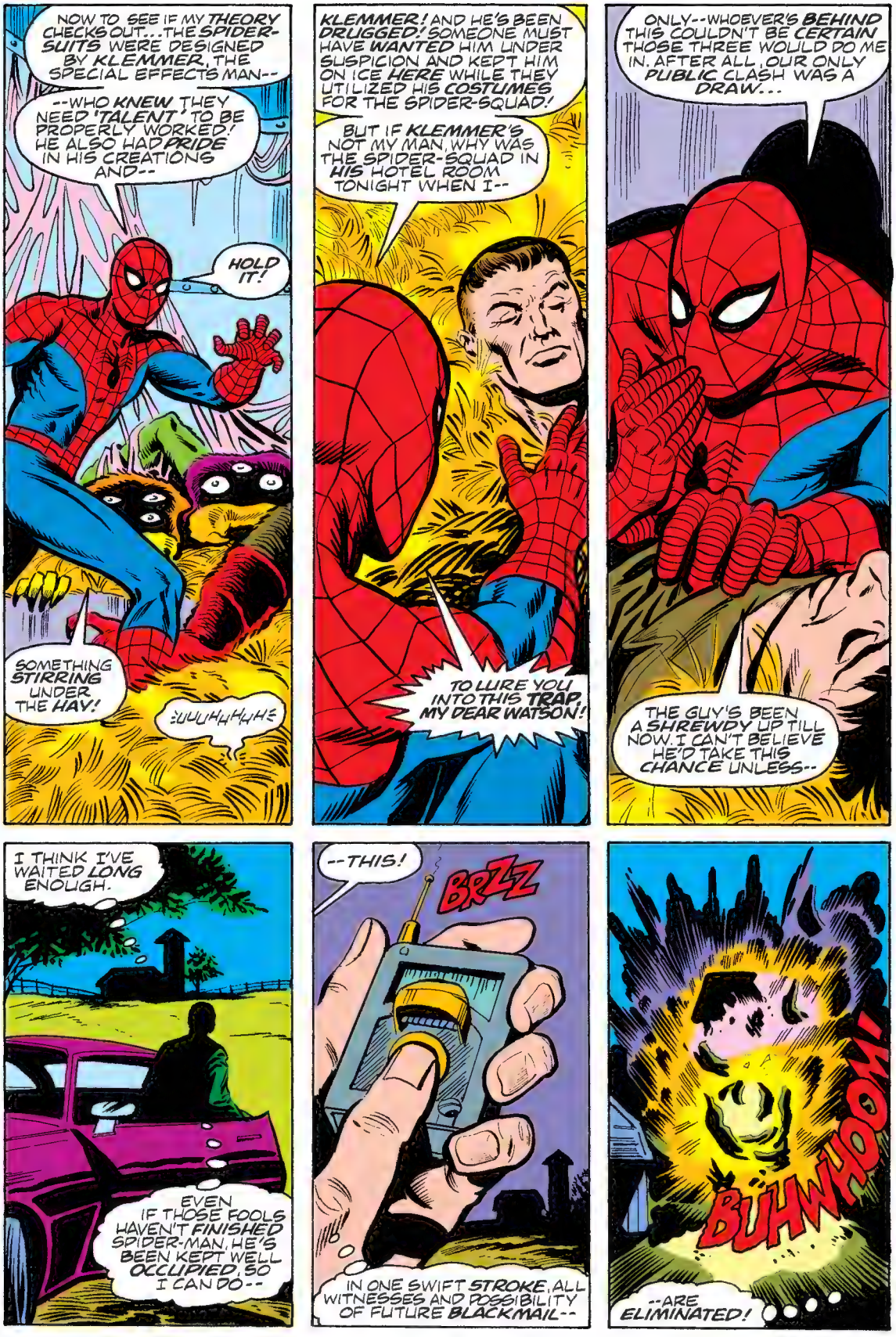

:UNNHHH!:
KEEP GROANIN', PUNK--

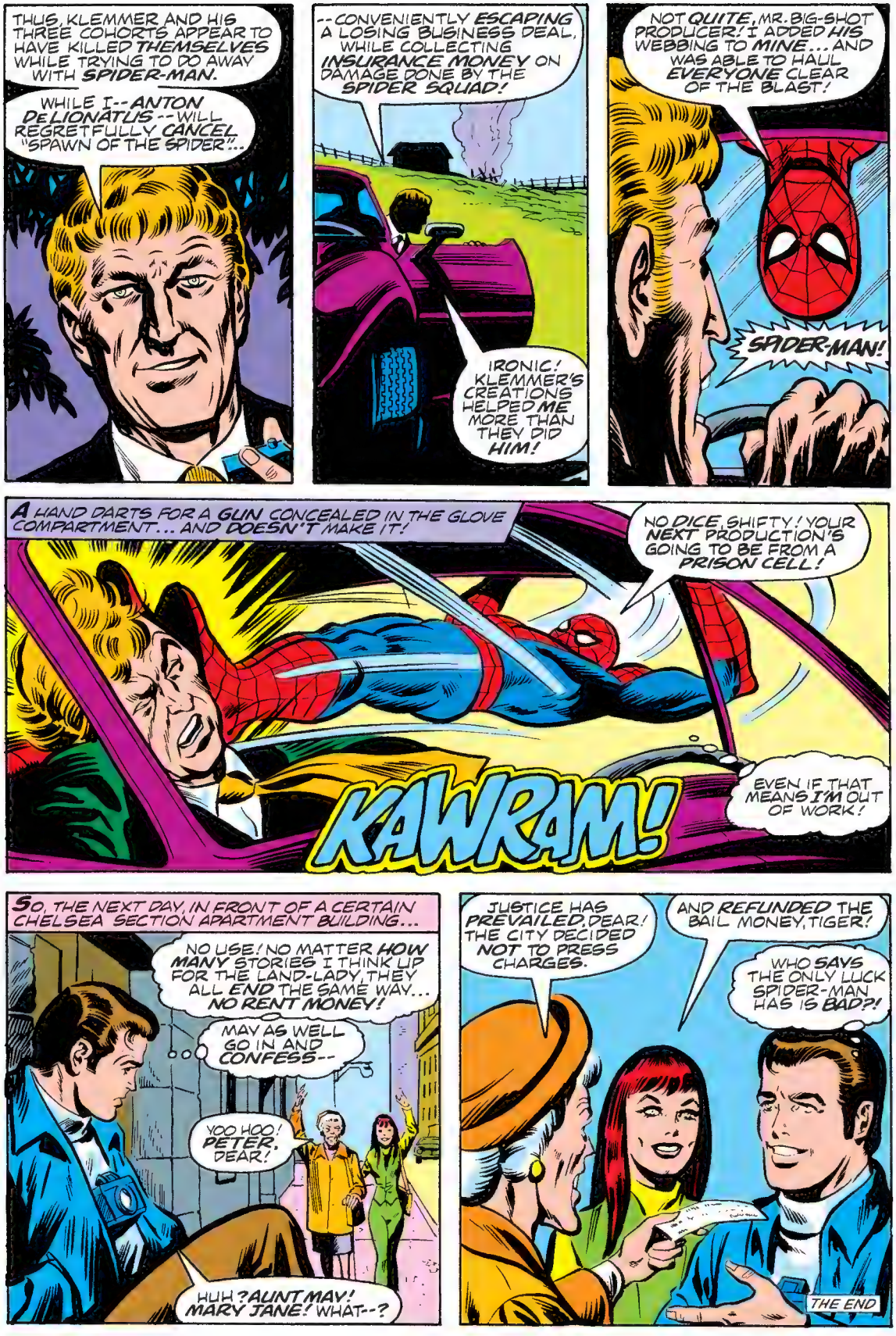

--IT'S MUSIC TO MY...HEY! YUH MOVED!
I BARELY HIT YUH!
THAT'S RIGHT, CLYDE--

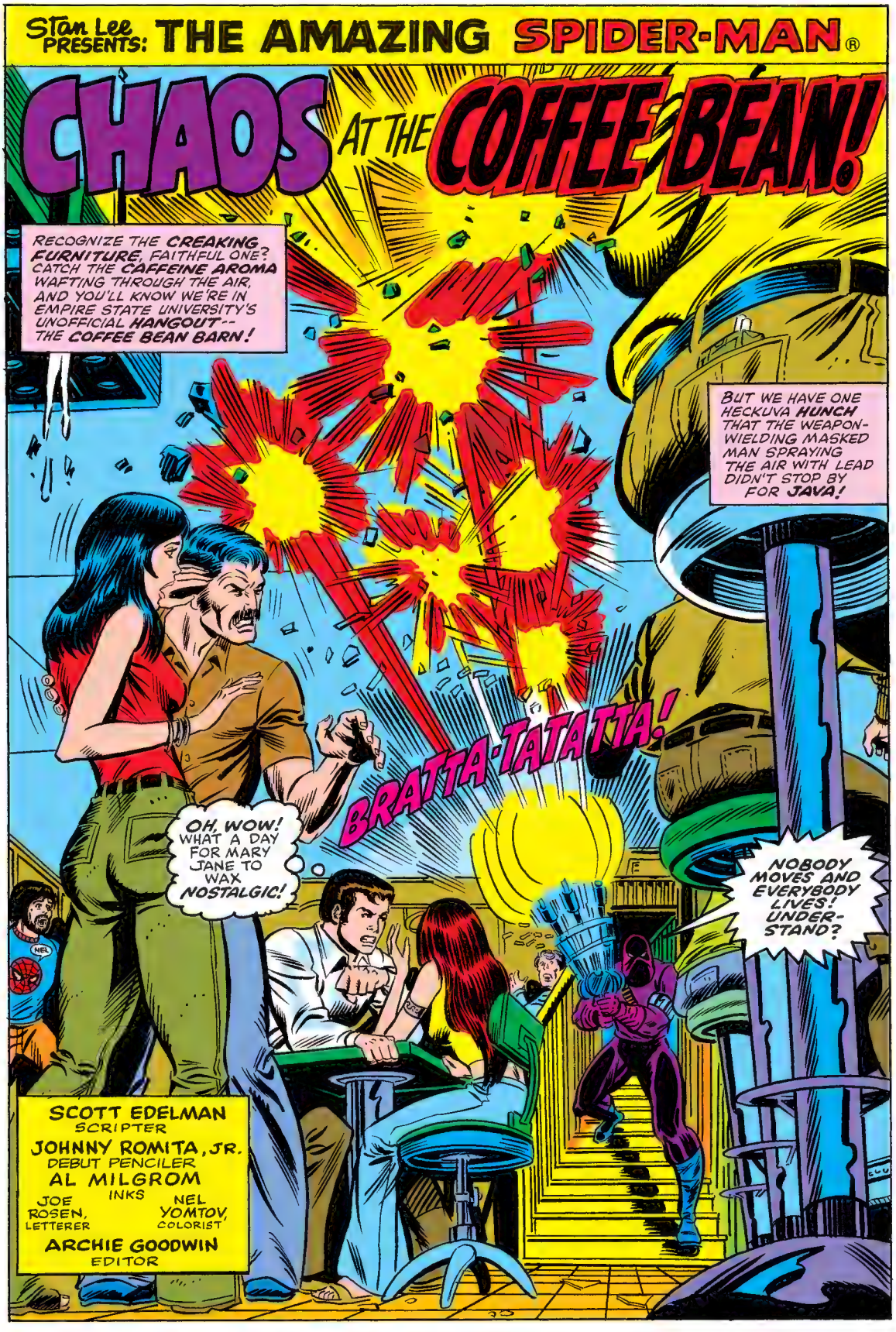

--I LET YOU PROVIDE ME WITH THE MOMENTUM I NEEDED TO SWING MYSELF FORWARD--


--AND DO THIS!
KA-TROOM!
HE--HE WASTED THE STRONGMAN!
BUT WHAT'S HE DOING NOW--?
JUST WATCH CLOSELY, BOYS--
--AND ALL WILL BE MADE CLEAR!
HIS ARMS STILL STUCK TO THE STRENGTHENED ADHESIVE WEBBING--SPIDEY STARTS SWINGING--
--FROM SIDE TO SIDE, BACK AND FORTH, HIS SPEED INCREASING--
--UNTIL...
SNAP!
KRAKLE!
POP!


ALL RIGHT, CLOWNS! IT'S YOUR TURN!
I'VE FREED MYSELF FROM YOUR WEB--
--AND NOW I'M PULLING DOWN THE WORKS!
WE-WE'RE SNARED IN OUR OWN TRAP!
MY STINGER! NOW WE CAN'T EVEN CUT OUR WAY OUT!
:UNGHHH:
AH, I CAN SEE CRAB-CLAWS IS WAKING FROM HIS BEAUTY SLEEP!
WAM!
TOO BAD IT DIDN'T HELP, THOUGH--
--'CAUSE YOU'RE JUST AS UGLY AS WHEN I PUT YOU OUT THE FIRST TIME!
BWAM!

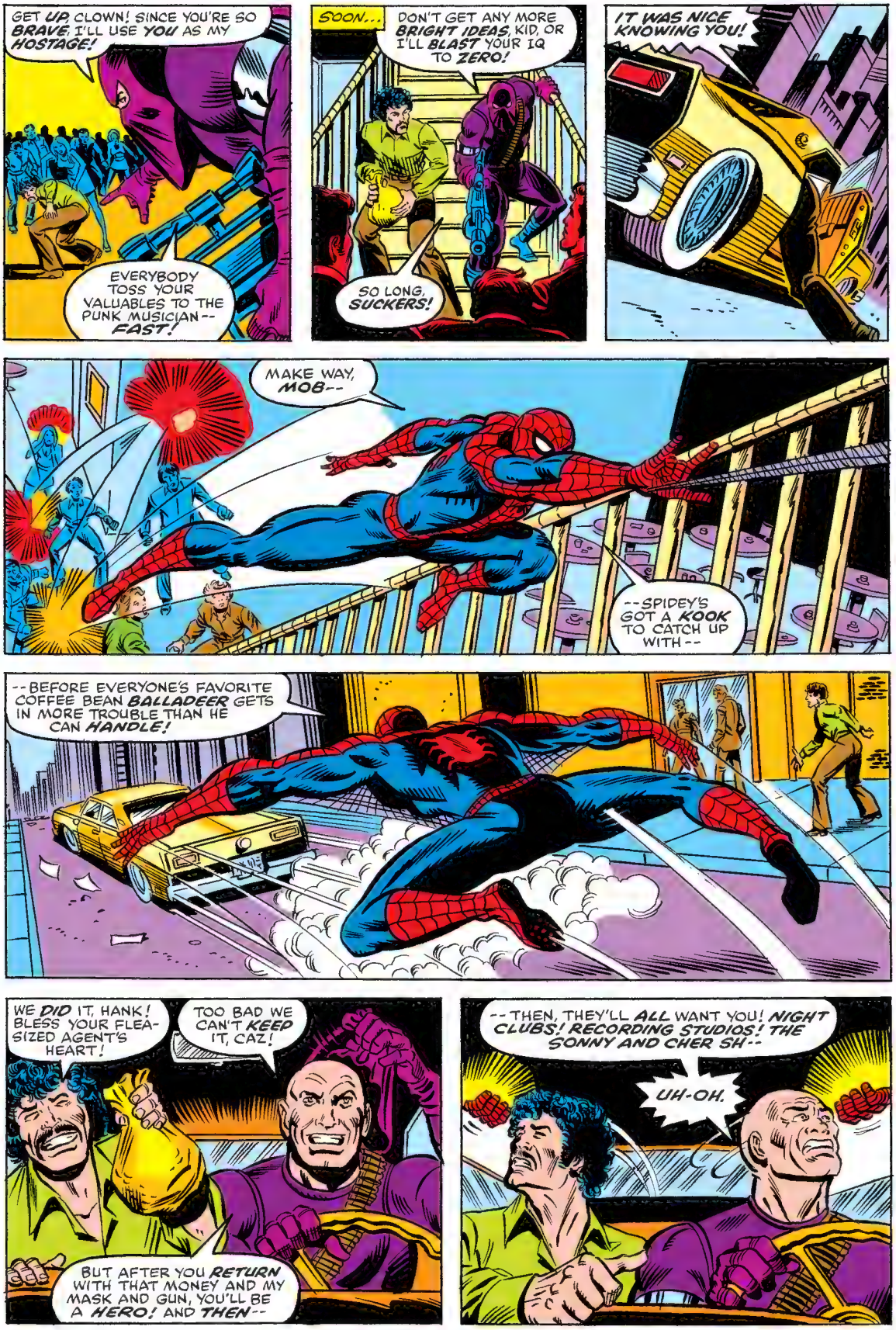

NOW TO SEE IF MY THEORY CHECKS OUT...THE SPIDER-SUITS WERE DESIGNED BY KLEMMER, THE SPECIAL EFFECTS MAN--
--WHO KNEW THEY NEED 'TALENT' TO BE PROPERLY WORKED! HE ALSO HAD PRIDE IN HIS CREATIONS AND--
HOLD IT!
SOMETHING STIRRING UNDER THE HAY!
:UUUHHHHHE
KLEMMER! AND HE'S BEEN DRUGGED! SOMEONE MUST HAVE WANTED HIM UNDER SUSPICION AND KEPT HIM ON ICE HERE WHILE THEY UTILIZED HIS COSTUMES FOR THE SPIDER-SQUAD!
BUT IF KLEMMER'S NOT MY MAN, WHY WAS THE SPIDER-SQUAD IN HIS HOTEL ROOM TONIGHT WHEN I--
TO LURE YOU INTO THIS TRAP, MY DEAR WATSON!
ONLY--WHOEVER'S BEHIND THIS COULDN'T BE CERTAIN THOSE THREE WOULD DO ME IN. AFTER ALL, OUR ONLY PUBLIC CLASH WAS A DRAW...
THE GUY'S BEEN A SHREWDY UP TILL NOW. I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D TAKE THIS CHANCE UNLESS--
I THINK I'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH.
EVEN IF THOSE FOOLS HAVEN'T FINISHED SPIDER-MAN, HE'S BEEN KEPT WELL OCCUPIED, SO I CAN DO--
--THIS!
BRZZ
IN ONE SWIFT STROKE, ALL WITNESSES AND POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE BLACKMAIL--
BUHWHOOM!
--ARE ELIMINATED!

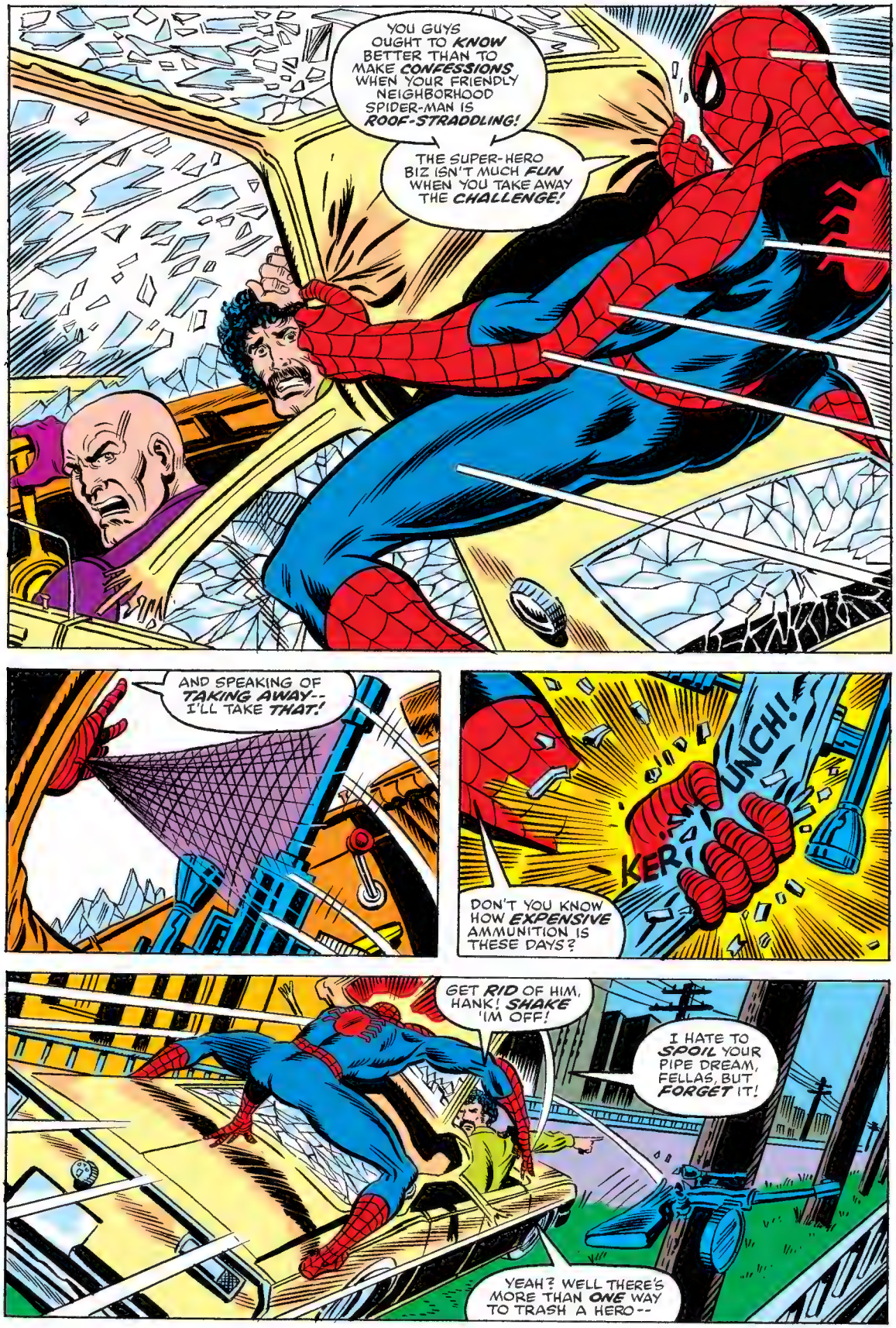

THUS, KLEMMER AND HIS THREE COHORTS APPEAR TO HAVE KILLED THEMSELVES WHILE TRYING TO DO AWAY WITH SPIDER-MAN.
WHILE I--ANTON DeLIONATUS--WILL REGRETFULLY CANCEL "SPAWN OF THE SPIDER"...
--CONVENIENTLY ESCAPING A LOSING BUSINESS DEAL, WHILE COLLECTING INSURANCE MONEY ON DAMAGE DONE BY THE SPIDER SQUAD!
IRONIC! KLEMMER'S CREATIONS HELPED ME MORE THAN THEY DID HIM!
NOT QUITE, MR. BIG-SHOT PRODUCER! I ADDED HIS WEBBING TO MINE... AND WAS ABLE TO HAUL EVERYONE CLEAR OF THE BLAST!
SPIDER-MAN!
A HAND DARTS FOR A GUN CONCEALED IN THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT... AND DOESN'T MAKE IT!
NO DICE, SHIFTY! YOUR NEXT PRODUCTION'S GOING TO BE FROM A PRISON CELL!
KAWRAM!
EVEN IF THAT MEANS I'M OUT OF WORK!
SO, THE NEXT DAY, IN FRONT OF A CERTAIN CHELSEA SECTION APARTMENT BUILDING...
NO USE! NO MATTER HOW MANY STORIES I THINK UP FOR THE LAND-LADY, THEY ALL END THE SAME WAY... NO RENT MONEY!
MAY AS WELL GO IN AND CONFESS--
YOO HOO! PETER, DEAR!
HUH? AUNT MAY! MARY JANE! WHAT--?
JUSTICE HAS PREVAILED, DEAR! THE CITY DECIDED NOT TO PRESS CHARGES.
AND REFUNDED THE BAIL MONEY, TIGER!
WHO SAYS THE ONLY LUCK SPIDER-MAN HAS IS BAD?!
THE END

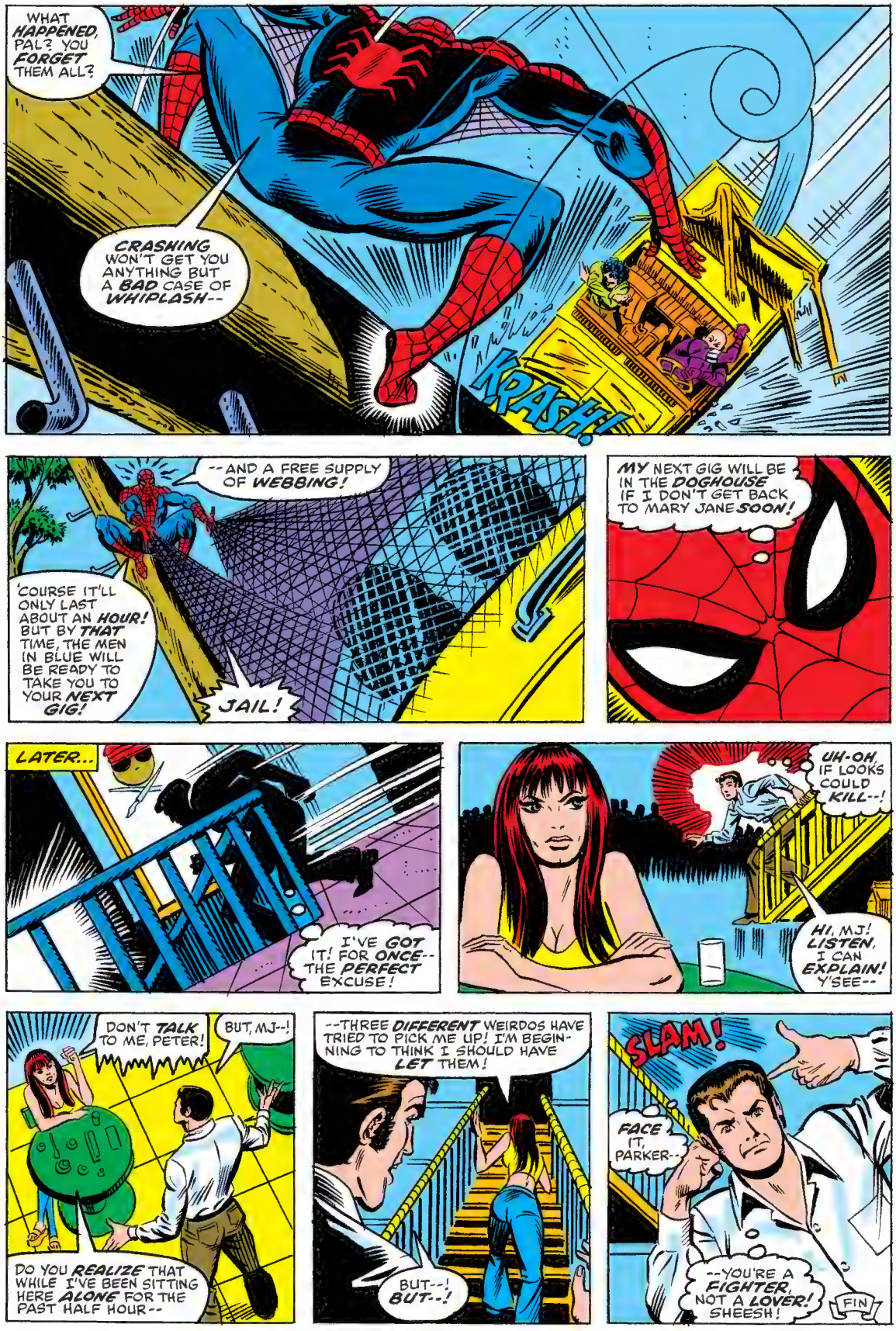

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
CHAOS AT THE COFFEE BEAN!
RECOGNIZE THE CREAKING FURNITURE, FAITHFUL ONE? CATCH THE CAFFEINE AROMA WAFTING THROUGH THE AIR, AND YOU'LL KNOW WE'RE IN EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY'S UNOFFICIAL HANGOUT--THE COFFEE BEAN BARN!
BUT WE HAVE ONE HECKUVA HUNCH THAT THE WEAPON-WIELDING MASKED MAN SPRAYING THE AIR WITH LEAD DIDN'T STOP BY FOR JAVA!
BRATTA-TATATTA!
OH, WOW! WHAT A DAY FOR MARY JANE TO WAX NOSTALGIC!
NOBODY MOVES AND EVERYBODY LIVES! UNDER-STAND?
SCOTT EDELMAN SCRIPTER
JOHNNY ROMITA, JR. DEBUT PENCILER
AL MILGROM INKS
JOE ROSEN, LETTERER
NEL YOMTOV, COLORIST
ARCHIE GOODWIN EDITOR

HOW DID PETE AND MARY JANE BECOME PART OF THIS TABLEAU OF TERROR? ONLY HALF AN HOUR AGO...
SHEESH! YOU WERE RIGHT, MJ!
AREN'T I ALWAYS, TIGER?
I FIGURED IT'D BE REPLACED BY SOMETHING LIKE "MADAME NADIA'S FORTUNE-TELLING EMPORIUM" BY NOW!
JUST 'CAUSE YOU HAVEN'T HAD A DECENT CUP OF CAPUCCINO IN AGES--
--DOESN'T MEAN THAT THE REST OF THE WORLD'S OUT OF TOUCH!
BUT, MARY JANE--!
NO BUTS! YOU DIDN'T THINK I WAS GOING TO WALTZ AWAY BEFORE WE CHECKED FOR--
"--FAMILIAR FACES?!"
I DON'T BELIEVE IT, PETER. THAT'S PAUL CASSIDY FINGERING THOSE FRETS. HE'S BEEN PLAYING THIS PLACE SINCE DAY ONE IT SEEMS!
AND AFTER WE HAD HIM PEGGED AS THE NEXT BOB DYLAN!
HEY, MJ! WHY COME YOU HITHER TO THIS HALLOWED HALL OF HOOPLA?
CALL IT AN ACT OF FAITH. HEY, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY MAN, PETER PARKER.
PARKER, HUH? USED TO HANG OUT HERE, RIGHT?
I USED TO SIP THE EXPRESSO WITH THE BEST OF 'EM!
WHEN I WASN'T OUT SAVING THE WORLD, THAT IS!
I'M GLAD YOU TWO CATS HAPPENED BY 'CAUSE I'VE GOT GREAT NEWS! I PICKED UP A NEW MANAGER WHO'S GONNA PUT THIS OL' WAILER ON THE MAP!
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SAY YOU KNEW ME WHEN, FRIENDS!
I'D LOVE TO SEE HIM STARING OUT AT ME FROM AN ALBUM COVER, PETER!
I'D SETTLE JUST FOR YOUR LONGING GAZE, MARY JANE!
WHY, PETER--!
A TENDER SCENE--HARSHLY INTERRUPTED--
--WHICH BRINGS US TO THE TERRIFYING PRESENT...
THIS GUNMAN MEANS BUSINESS, AND MARY JANE'S IN THE LINE OF FIRE!
WHY'D HE PICK THIS PLACE, ANYWAY?

IF I CAN JUST SHUFFLE OFF TO THE BACK ROOM--
FREEZE, PUNK!
THAT CANS THAT IDEA!
NOW, LISTEN--I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYBODY--
--SO JUST DOARRGGGHH!
THUH-WANGG
WILLYA LOOKIT THAT!
THAT CASSIDY CAT IS SOME MEAN DUDE!
I'LL SAY! IT TOOK A LOT OF GUTS TO TOSS THAT GUITAR!
AND IT GAVE ME JUST THE OPENING I NEED TO SAVE THIS SCENE BEFORE THINGS GET TOO ROUGH!
ALL RIGHT, KILLER! THE MASQUERADE IS OVER!
NO WAY!
BRAAAAAT!
THAT WAS A DUMB MOVE, WISE GUY!
I HOPE NOBODY WHO CAN ADD TWO AND TWO SAW PARKER DISAPPEAR--
--'CAUSE IF SPIDEY DOESN'T MAKE HIS STAND NOW--
--THIS REUNION MIGHT JUST TURN INTO A WAKE!


GET UP, CLOWN! SINCE YOU'RE SO BRAVE, I'LL USE YOU AS MY HOSTAGE!
EVERYBODY TOSS YOUR VALUABLES TO THE PUNK MUSICIAN -- FAST!
SOON...
DON'T GET ANY MORE BRIGHT IDEAS, KID, OR I'LL BLAST YOUR IQ TO ZERO!
SO LONG, SUCKERS!
IT WAS NICE KNOWING YOU!
MAKE WAY, MOB--
--SPIDEY'S GOT A KOOK TO CATCH UP WITH --
--BEFORE EVERYONE'S FAVORITE COFFEE BEAN BALLADEER GETS IN MORE TROUBLE THAN HE CAN HANDLE!
WE DID IT, HANK! BLESS YOUR FLEA-SIZED AGENT'S HEART!
TOO BAD WE CAN'T KEEP IT, CAZ!
BUT AFTER YOU RETURN WITH THAT MONEY AND MY MASK AND GUN, YOU'LL BE A HERO! AND THEN--
--THEN, THEY'LL ALL WANT YOU! NIGHT CLUBS! RECORDING STUDIOS! THE SONNY AND CHER SH--
UH-OH.


YOU GUYS OUGHT TO KNOW BETTER THAN TO MAKE CONFESSIONS WHEN YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN IS ROOF-STRADDLING!
THE SUPER-HERO BIZ ISN'T MUCH FUN WHEN YOU TAKE AWAY THE CHALLENGE!
AND SPEAKING OF TAKING AWAY-- I'LL TAKE THAT!
KER-UNCH!
DON'T YOU KNOW HOW EXPENSIVE AMMUNITION IS THESE DAYS?
GET RID OF HIM, HANK! SHAKE 'IM OFF!
I HATE TO SPOIL YOUR PIPE DREAM, FELLAS, BUT FORGET IT!
YEAH? WELL THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO TRASH A HERO--


WHAT HAPPENED, PAL? YOU FORGET THEM ALL?
CRASHING WON'T GET YOU ANYTHING BUT A BAD CASE OF WHIPLASH--
KRASH!
--AND A FREE SUPPLY OF WEBBING!
'COURSE IT'LL ONLY LAST ABOUT AN HOUR! BUT BY THAT TIME, THE MEN IN BLUE WILL BE READY TO TAKE YOU TO YOUR NEXT GIG!
JAIL!
MY NEXT GIG WILL BE IN THE DOGHOUSE IF I DON'T GET BACK TO MARY JANE SOON!
LATER...
I'VE GOT IT! FOR ONCE-- THE PERFECT EXCUSE!
UH-OH, IF LOOKS COULD KILL--!
HI, MJ! LISTEN, I CAN EXPLAIN! Y'SEE--
DON'T TALK TO ME, PETER!
BUT, MJ--!
DO YOU REALIZE THAT WHILE I'VE BEEN SITTING HERE ALONE FOR THE PAST HALF HOUR--
--THREE DIFFERENT WEIRDOS HAVE TRIED TO PICK ME UP! I'M BEGINNING TO THINK I SHOULD HAVE LET THEM!
BUT--! BUT--!
SLAM!
FACE IT, PARKER--
--YOU'RE A FIGHTER, NOT A LOVER! SHEESH!
FIN

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
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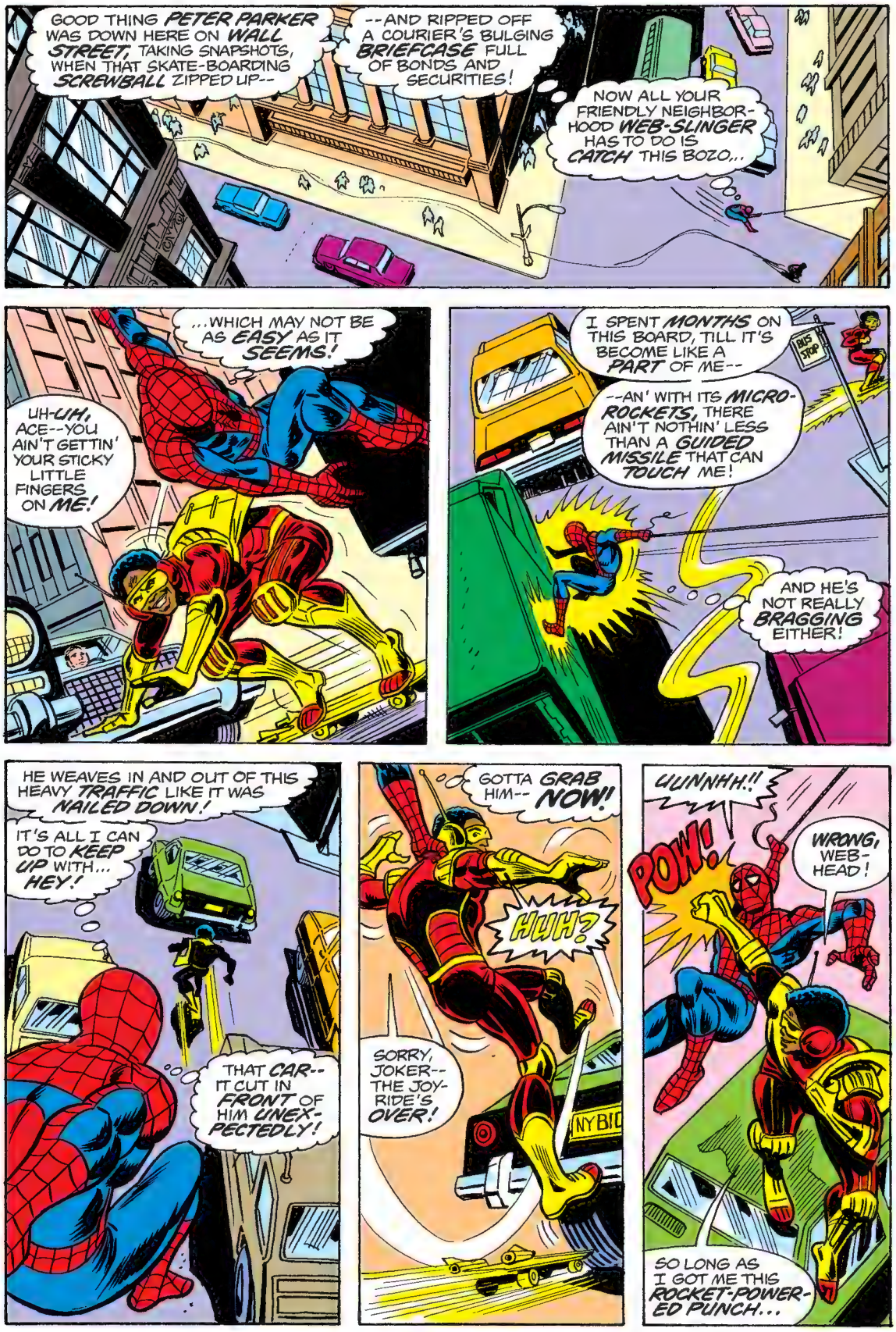
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
BOMBS FROM HIS FINGERTIPS-- BURSTING ALL AROUND ME--!
FACE IT, WEBHEAD-- YOU AIN'T GOT A CHANCE AGAINST THE ROCKET-RACER!
BUT EVEN IF SPIDEY CAN DEFEAT THIS SKATE-BOARDING PSYCHOPATH, HE STILL MUST FACE--
THE FIEND FROM THE FIRE!

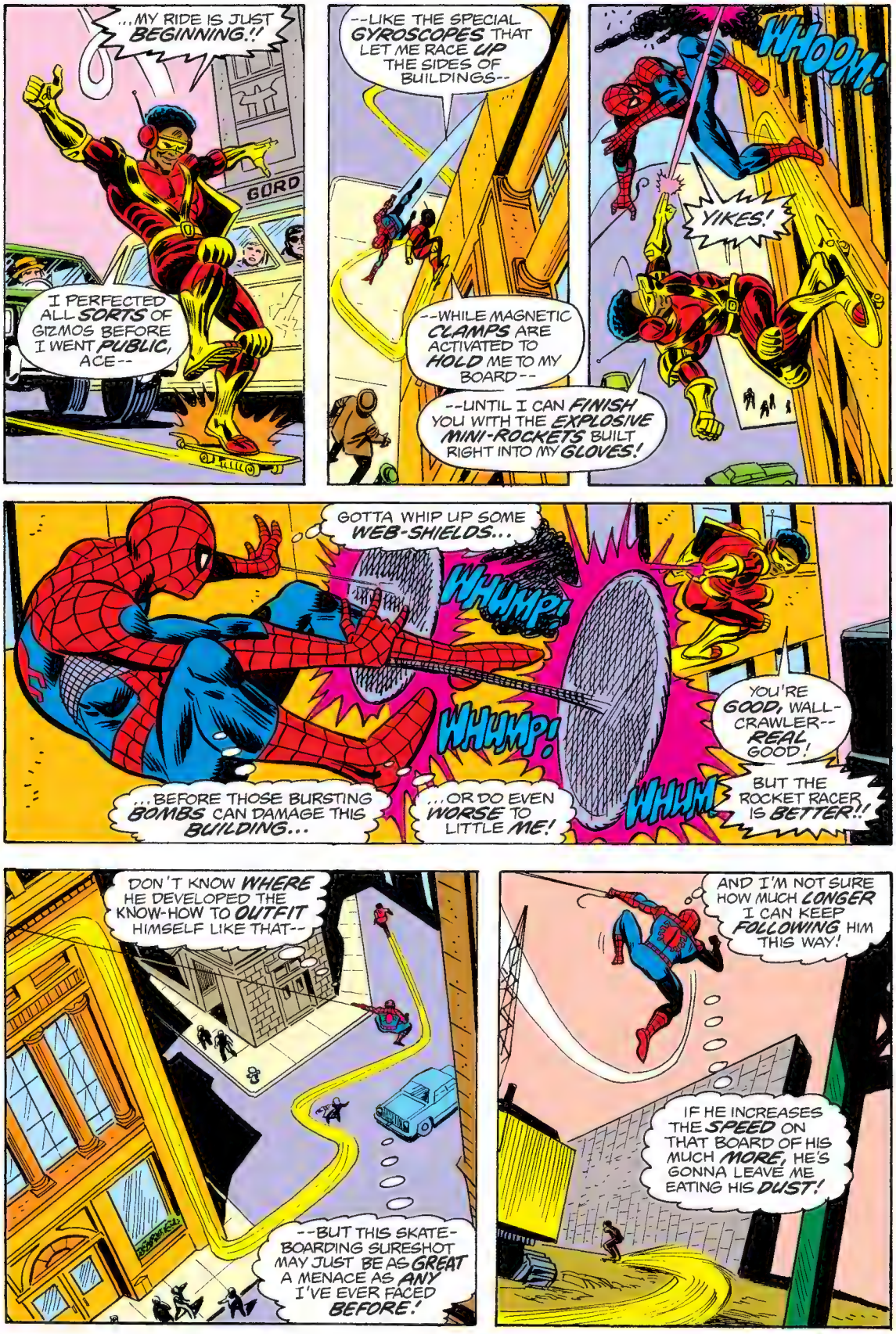
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

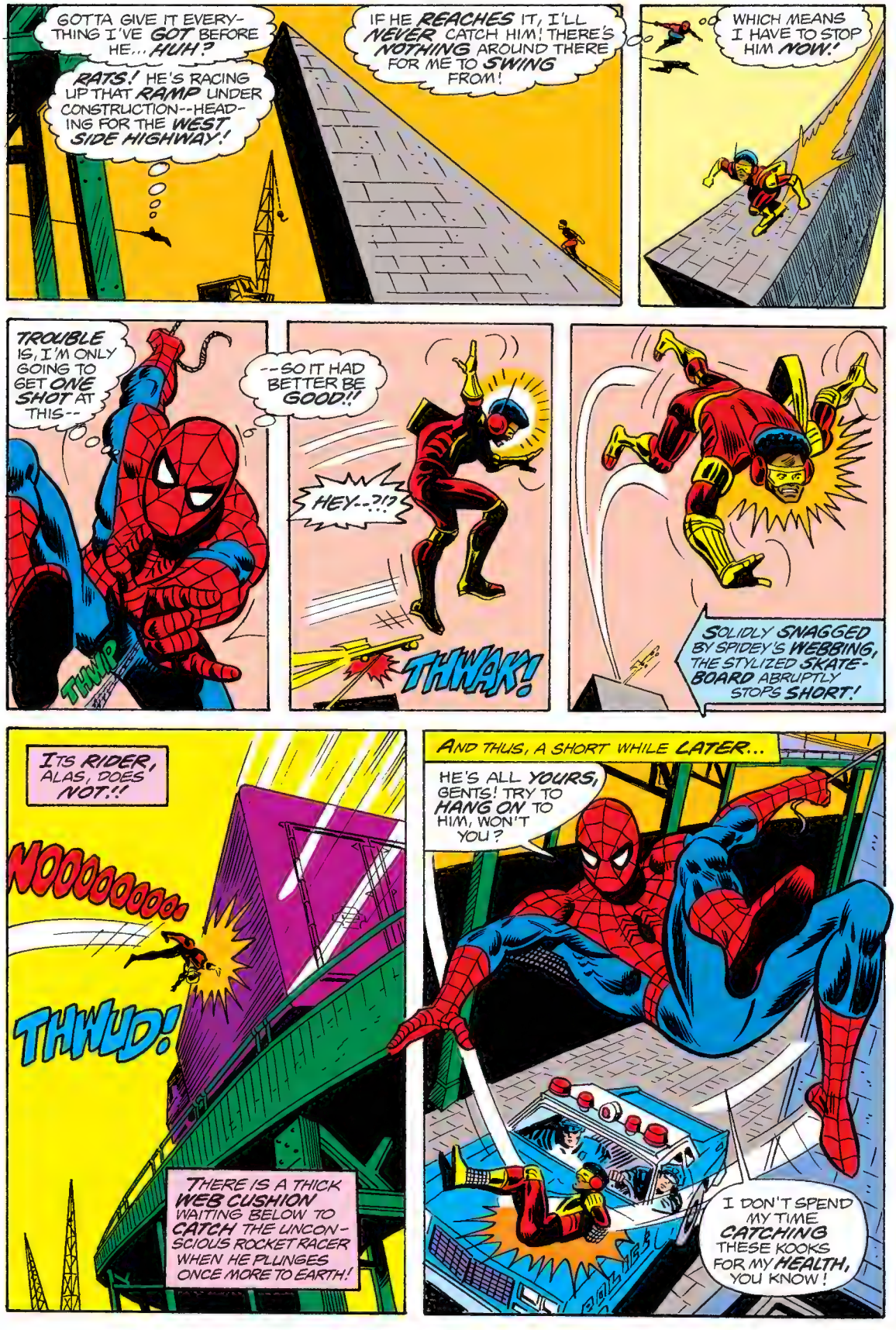
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN WRITER/EDITOR * ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR * FRANK GIACOIA EMBELLISHER * GLYNIS WEIN colorist * JOHN COSTANZA letterer

APOLOGIA: WE TRIED TO WAIT, MARVELITE-- HONEST WE DID-- BUT THINGS BEGAN HAPPENING SO FAST AND SO FURIOUS, WE JUST HAD TO START WITHOUT YOU!
NO NEED TO WORRY, THOUGH; WE'VE BEEN TAKING SCADS OF NOTES-- AND WE CAN FILL IN ALL THE DETAILS AS WE GO ROCKETING ALONG!
OUTTA MY WAY, SUCKER!
THE ROCKET RACER IS COMIN' THRU!!
AND EVEN IF SPIDEY CAN DEFEAT THIS SKATE-BOARDING PSYCHOPATH, HE STILL HAS TO FACE...
THE FIEND FROM THE FIRE!

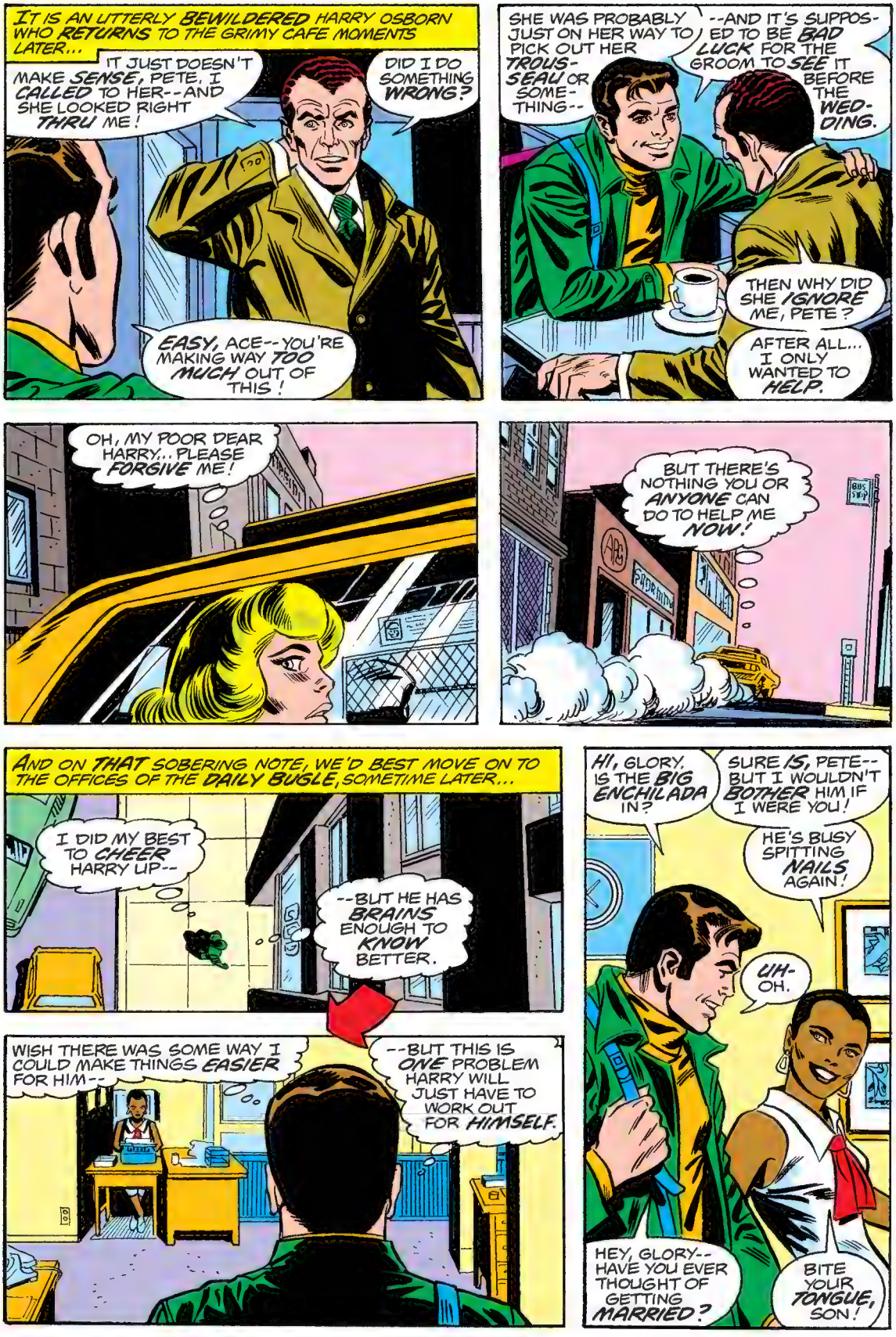

GOOD THING PETER PARKER WAS DOWN HERE ON WALL STREET, TAKING SNAPSHOTS, WHEN THAT SKATE-BOARDING SCREWBALL ZIPPED UP--
--AND RIPPED OFF A COURIER'S BULGING BRIEFCASE FULL OF BONDS AND SECURITIES!
NOW ALL YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR-HOOD WEB-SLINGER HAS TO DO IS CATCH THIS BOZO...
...WHICH MAY NOT BE AS EASY AS IT SEEMS!
UH-UH, ACE--YOU AIN'T GETTIN' YOUR STICKY LITTLE FINGERS ON ME!
I SPENT MONTHS ON THIS BOARD, TILL IT'S BECOME LIKE A PART OF ME--
--AN' WITH ITS MICRO-ROCKETS, THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' LESS THAN A GUIDED MISSILE THAT CAN TOUCH ME!
BUS STOP
AND HE'S NOT REALLY BRAGGING EITHER!
HE WEAVES IN AND OUT OF THIS HEAVY TRAFFIC LIKE IT WAS NAILED DOWN!
IT'S ALL I CAN DO TO KEEP UP WITH... HEY!
THAT CAR-- IT CUT IN FRONT OF HIM UNEX-PECTEDLY!
GOTTA GRAB HIM-- NOW!
HUH?
SORRY, JOKER-- THE JOY-RIDE'S OVER!
UUNNHH!!
POW!
WRONG, WEB-HEAD!
SO LONG AS I GOT ME THIS ROCKET-POWER-ED PUNCH...


...MY RIDE IS JUST BEGINNING!!
GORD
I PERFECTED ALL SORTS OF GIZMOS BEFORE I WENT PUBLIC, ACE--
--LIKE THE SPECIAL GYROSCOPES THAT LET ME RACE UP THE SIDES OF BUILDINGS--
--WHILE MAGNETIC CLAMPS ARE ACTIVATED TO HOLD ME TO MY BOARD--
--UNTIL I CAN FINISH YOU WITH THE EXPLOSIVE MINI-ROCKETS BUILT RIGHT INTO MY GLOVES!
WHOOM!
YIKES!
GOTTA WHIP UP SOME WEB-SHIELDS...
WHUMP!
WHUMP!
WHUM
...BEFORE THOSE BURSTING BOMBS CAN DAMAGE THIS BUILDING...
...OR DO EVEN WORSE TO LITTLE ME!
YOU'RE GOOD, WALL-CRAWLER-- REAL GOOD!
BUT THE ROCKET RACER IS BETTER!!
DON'T KNOW WHERE HE DEVELOPED THE KNOW-HOW TO OUTFIT HIMSELF LIKE THAT--
--BUT THIS SKATE-BOARDING SURESHOT MAY JUST BE AS GREAT A MENACE AS ANY I'VE EVER FACED BEFORE!
AND I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN KEEP FOLLOWING HIM THIS WAY!
IF HE INCREASES THE SPEED ON THAT BOARD OF HIS MUCH MORE, HE'S GONNA LEAVE ME EATING HIS DUST!

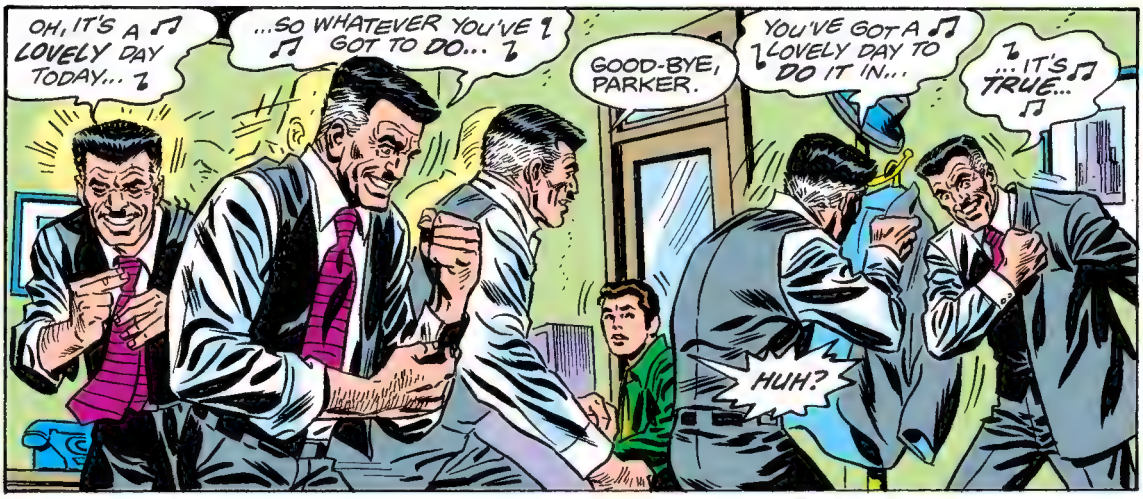

GOTTA GIVE IT EVERY-THING I'VE GOT BEFORE HE... HUH?
RATS! HE'S RACING UP THAT RAMP UNDER CONSTRUCTION--HEAD-ING FOR THE WEST SIDE HIGHWAY!
IF HE REACHES IT, I'LL NEVER CATCH HIM! THERE'S NOTHING AROUND THERE FOR ME TO SWING FROM!
WHICH MEANS I HAVE TO STOP HIM NOW!
TROUBLE IS, I'M ONLY GOING TO GET ONE SHOT AT THIS--
THWIP
--SO IT HAD BETTER BE GOOD!!
HEY--?!?
THWAK!
SOLIDLY SNAGGED BY SPIDEY'S WEBBING, THE STYLIZED SKATE-BOARD ABRUPTLY STOPS SHORT!
ITS RIDER, ALAS, DOES NOT!!
NOOOOOOO.
THWUD!
THERE IS A THICK WEB CUSHION WAITING BELOW TO CATCH THE UNCON-SCIOUS ROCKET RACER WHEN HE PLUNGES ONCE MORE TO EARTH!
AND THUS, A SHORT WHILE LATER...
HE'S ALL YOURS, GENTS! TRY TO HANG ON TO HIM, WON'T YOU?
I DON'T SPEND MY TIME CATCHING THESE KOOKS FOR MY HEALTH, YOU KNOW!

AND AS SPIDEY SWINGS OFF IN THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF STATEN ISLAND, LET'S PRECEDE HIM THERE--AND LOOK IN ON A HAPPY HARRY OSBORN AND HIS FIANCEE LIZ ALLEN, AS THEY...
OH...UH... AHEM... EXCUSE US.
I DON'T WANT TO, DARLING--BUT I'VE REALLY GOT TO BE GOING, IF I'M GOING TO CATCH A FEW HOURS' SLEEP BEFORE WORK.
I'M ON THE NIGHTOWL SHIFT AT THE HOSPITAL TONIGHT.
WELL, NEVER LET IT BE SAID HARRY OSBORN STOOD IN THE WAY OF A LADY'S BEAUTY REST!
NOT THAT YOU NEED ANY, OF COURSE.
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, SWEETHEART. I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW.
I JUST CAN'T GET OVER THE CHANGE IN HARRY.
HE'S SO MUCH MORE CONFIDENT, SO MUCH MORE SURE OF HIMSELF, THAN HE WAS WHEN WE FIRST STARTED GOING TOGETHER.
I'D LIKE TO THINK I HELPED IN HARRY'S REHABILITATION, AS MUCH AS... EH?
THAT WINDOW--IT'S OPEN! BUT I'M SURE I LEFT IT CLOSED!
I'D BETTER TURN ON THE LIGHT AND SEE IF EVERYTHING IS...
NO! PLEASE--DON'T TOUCH THAT SWITCH!!
WHO--?!?
SWEET LORD--NO!! IT'S YOU!! YOU'RE ALIVE!!
YES, ALIVE... AND IN DESPERATE NEED OF YOUR HELP!!

WHILE A BLOCK OR TWO AWAY...
HARRY?
I GOT YOUR MESSAGE, CHUM--AND PETER PARKER IS ALWAYS PROMPT!
HEY, GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT, PETE.
C'MON--LET'S GET SOMETHING TO EAT.
CAN'T SAY MUCH FOR YOUR TASTE IN RESTAURANTS, PAL. LOOKS LIKE EVEN THE MICE IN THIS PLACE HAVE INDIGESTION.
SURE WE CAN'T FIND A McDONALD'S OR SOMETHING INSTEAD?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, PETE. WHAT I REALLY WANT TO DO HERE IS TALK.
I HAVE SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO ASK YOU.
OKAY, HAR--I'M ALL EARS. HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO BORROW?
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT, PETE. AS YOU KNOW, LIZ ALLEN AND I ARE GETTING MARRIED SOON AND...
WELL I'D BE HONORED IF YOU'D BE MY BEST MAN!
CONGRATULATIONS, FELLA! NOW CAN I TAKE YER ORDER?
OH...UH...SURE. I'LL HAVE COFFEE AND A...
HEY, HARRY--ISN'T THAT LIZ GOING BY OVER THERE?
AND HARRY'S SUDDEN DOUBLE-TAKE ALMOST GIVES HIM WHIPLASH!
LIZ? HEY--LIZ! IS ANYTHING WRONG, DARLING?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO BED!
I--I DON'T GET IT. I'M SURE SHE SAW ME--BUT SHE MADE IT A POINT TO IGNORE ME!
WHAT IN BLAZES IS THE MATTER WITH HER?
PLEASE, LIZ--WAIT! WHATEVER MAY BE WRONG...
...I WANT TO HELP!
LIZ?


IT IS AN UTTERLY BEWILDERED HARRY OSBORN WHO RETURNS TO THE GRIMY CAFE MOMENTS LATER...
IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE, PETE. I CALLED TO HER--AND SHE LOOKED RIGHT THRU ME!
DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?
EASY, ACE--YOU'RE MAKING WAY TOO MUCH OUT OF THIS!
SHE WAS PROBABLY JUST ON HER WAY TO PICK OUT HER TROUS-SEAU OR SOME-THING--
--AND IT'S SUPPOS-ED TO BE BAD LUCK FOR THE GROOM TO SEE IT BEFORE THE WED-DING.
THEN WHY DID SHE IGNORE ME, PETE?
AFTER ALL... I ONLY WANTED TO HELP.
OH, MY POOR DEAR HARRY... PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
BUT THERE'S NOTHING YOU OR ANYONE CAN DO TO HELP ME NOW!
AND ON THAT SOBERING NOTE, WE'D BEST MOVE ON TO THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY BUGLE, SOMETIME LATER...
I DID MY BEST TO CHEER HARRY UP--
--BUT HE HAS BRAINS ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER.
WISH THERE WAS SOME WAY I COULD MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR HIM--
--BUT THIS IS ONE PROBLEM HARRY WILL JUST HAVE TO WORK OUT FOR HIMSELF.
HI, GLORY. IS THE BIG ENCHILADA IN?
SURE IS, PETE--BUT I WOULDN'T BOTHER HIM IF I WERE YOU!
HE'S BUSY SPITTING NAILS AGAIN!
UH-OH.
HEY, GLORY--HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF GETTING MARRIED?
BITE YOUR TONGUE, SON!

OF COURSE, IF YOU'RE VOLUN-TEERING...?
HEY, NO--NOTHING LIKE THAT. I WAS JUST WONDERING IF YOU'D KNOW WHY C/Z ALLEN WOULD...
PARKER! I THOUGHT I HEARD YOUR WHINING VOICE!
GET IN HERE!!
AND, SHORTLY...
UH OH.
WHERE, GOD--WHERE DID I GO WRONG? I TRY TO BE FAIR-- TRY TO GIVE MY EMPLOYEES WHAT THEY DESERVE--AND WHAT DO I GET IN RETURN?
TERMINAL AGGRAVATION!
SHOULD I SIT DOWN-- OR GET OUT MY VIOLIN?
SEE WHAT I MEAN, LORD?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO RUN A NEWSPAPER, IF ALL I EMPLOY ARE COMEDIANS?
BY PRINTING LITTLE ITEMS LIKE--THIS!
WHAT'S THAT-- A LETTER BOMB?
JUST CHECK 'EM OUT, JJJ!
GREAT GADFREY! THESE ARE PHOTOS OF THAT ROCKET RACER FREAK!
PARKER, YOU NEVER CEASE TO AMAZE ME!
IF WE CAN BEAT THE GLOBE TO THE STANDS WITH THESE, THERE'LL BE A BONUS IN IT FOR YOU... MAYBE EVEN A LITTLE CASH OR...
BZZZZZ!
YES, MISS GRANT-- WHAT IS IT?
THERE'S A DOCTOR MADISON HERE TO SEE YOU, BOSS!
WHAT--?!?
?
W-WELL, TELL THE GOOD DOCTOR TO BE PATIENT FOR A MOMENT!
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!


OH, IT'S A LOVELY DAY TODAY...
...SO WHATEVER YOU'VE GOT TO DO...
GOOD-BYE, PARKER.
YOU'VE GOT A LOVELY DAY TO DO IT IN...
...IT'S TRUE...
HUH?

I SAID GOOD-BYE, PARKER... AS IN FAREWELL... ADIOS... ARRIVEDERCI... BUZZ OFF!!
YOU DO STILL UNDERSTAND ENGLISH, DON'T YOU?
SURE, BUT...
THE ONLY "BUT" I WANT TO SEE IS YOURS, PARKER-- GOING OUT THAT DOOR!

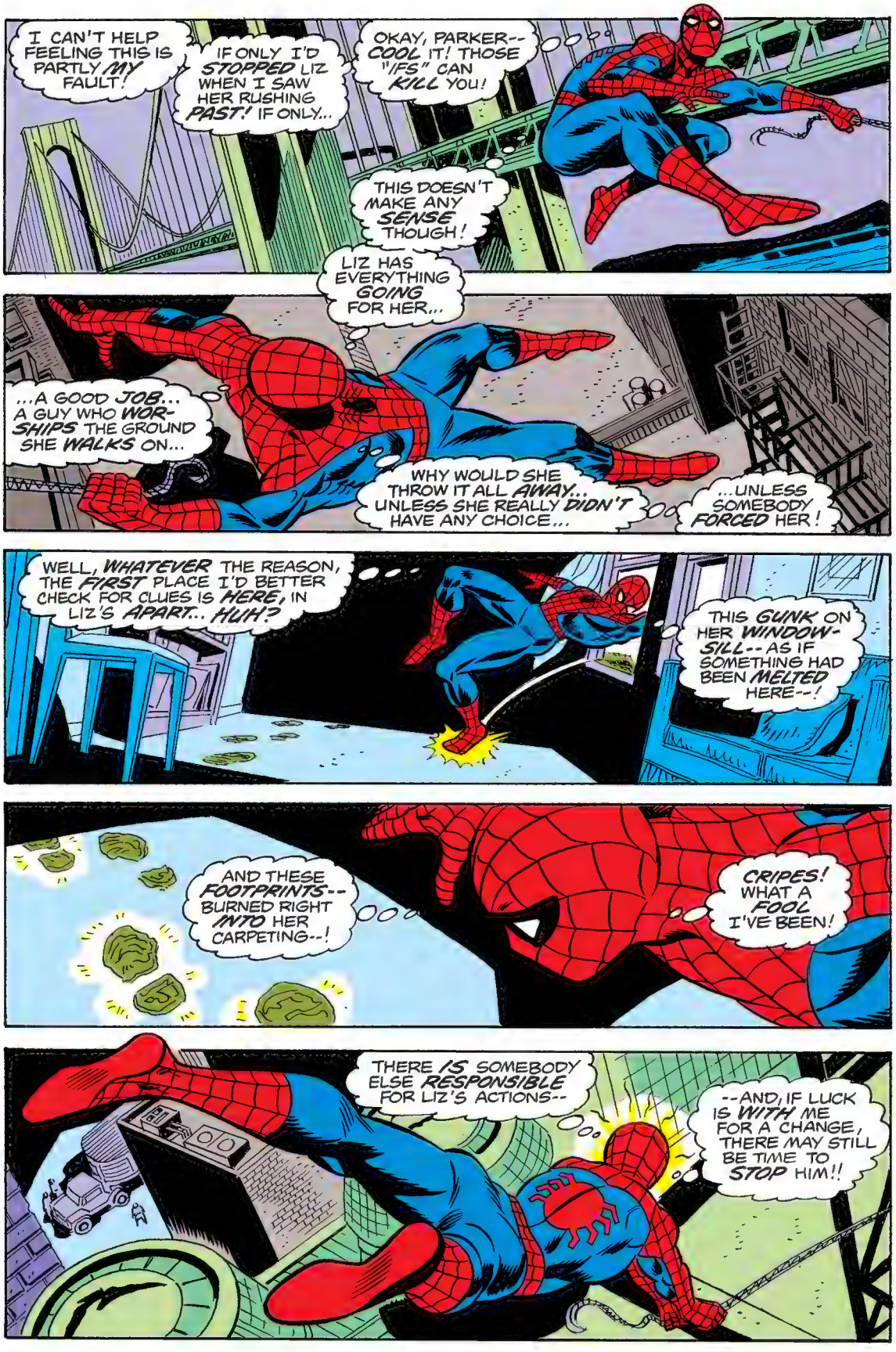
AND DON'T COME BACK TILL YOU HAVE SOME NEW PHOTOS WORTHY OF...
ULP.
OH... EXCUSE ME, JONAH. I HOPE I'M NOT INTERRUPTING ANYTHING.
NOT AT ALL, MARLA MY DEAR. PARKER HERE WAS JUST LEAVING... WEREN'T YOU, PARKER?

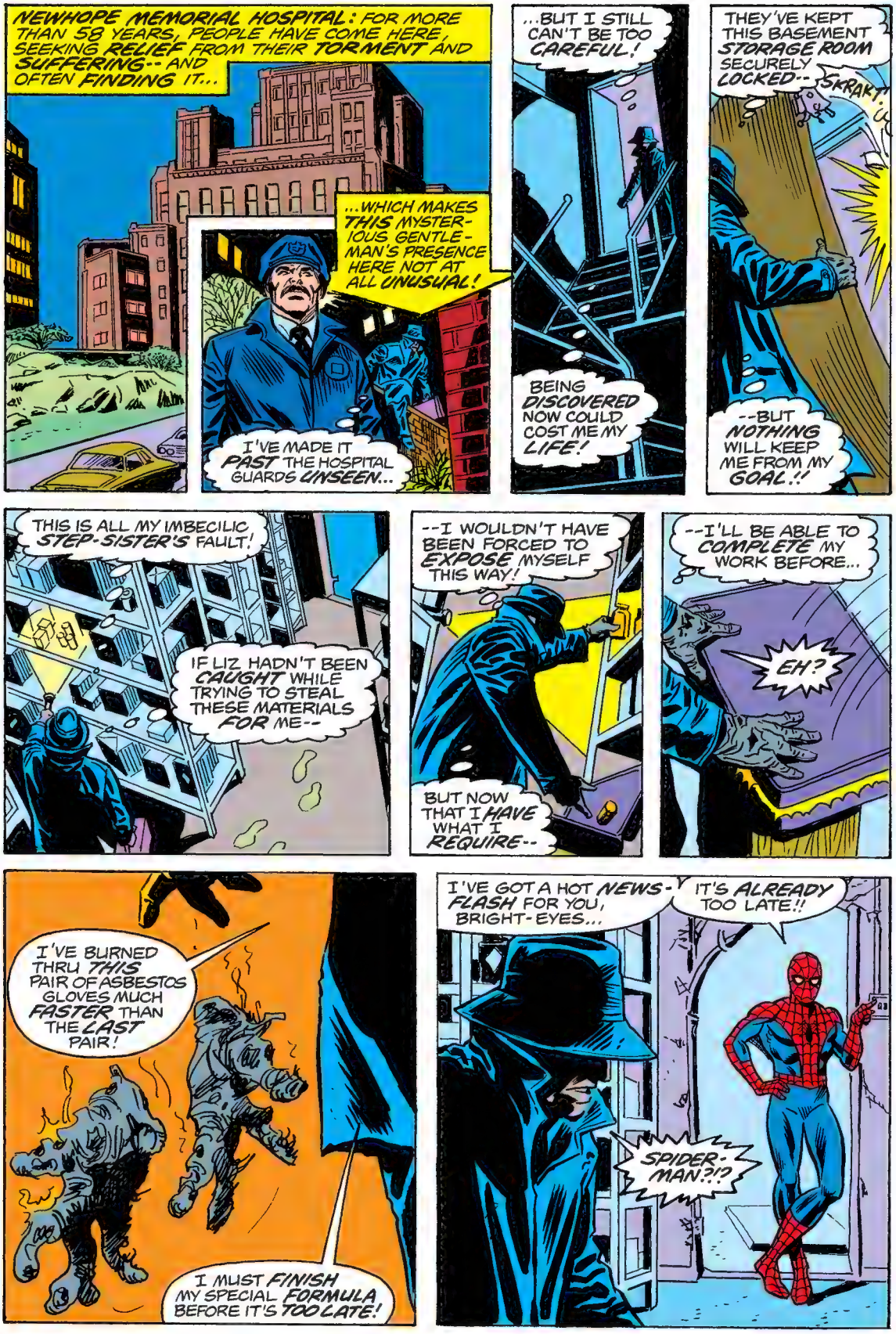
HE AND I WERE JUST HAVING ONE OF THOSE HEARTWARMING PUBLISHER-TO-LITTLE PERSON CHATS THAT I'M SO FAMOUS FOR.
HELPS BOLSTER THE MORALE OF THE TROOPS, SO TO SPEAK.
YOU'RE AN EXAMPLE TO US ALL, MR. JAMESON.
A BAD EXAMPLE, BUT STILL...
YOU REALLY ARE A MAN OF MANY FACETS, JONAH.

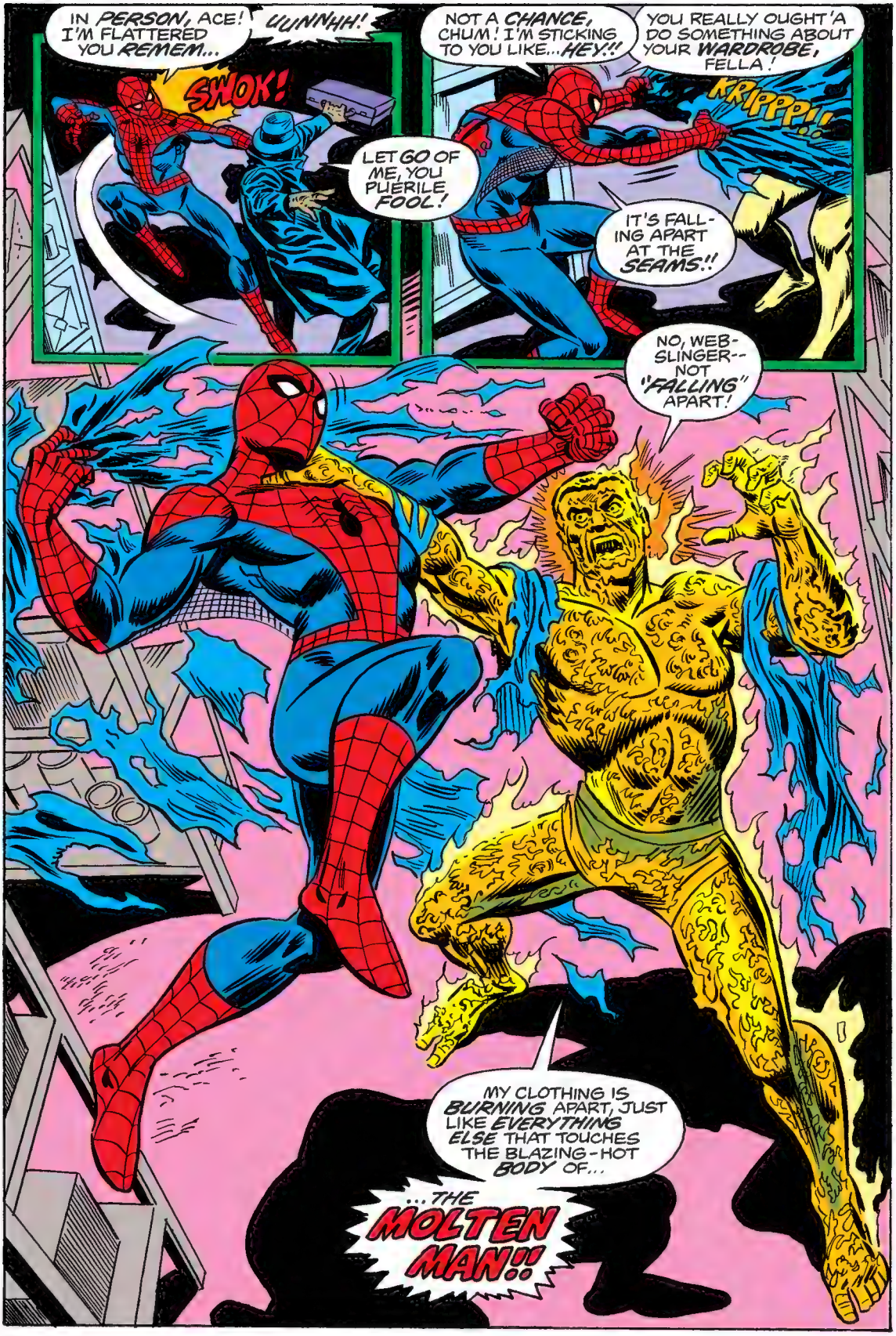
AM I GOING CRAZY, GLORY-- OR DID I JUST SEE WHAT I THOUGHT I SAW?
YOU AND EVERYONE ELSE AROUND HERE, PETER.
WHY, YOU CAN ALMOST HEAR THE "MUZAK" IN THE AIR.

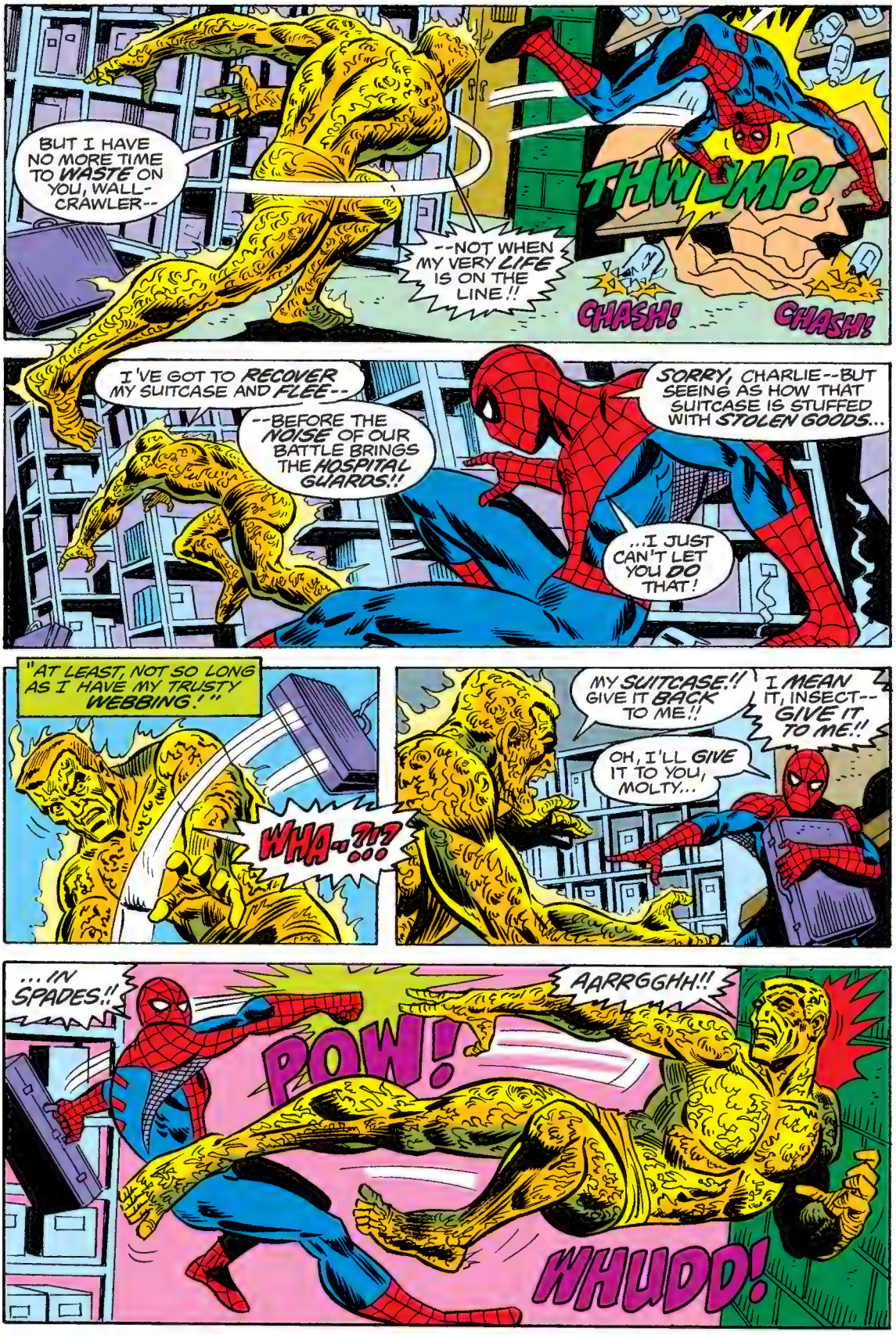
EITHER OUR PEERLESS PUBLISHER HAS HIMSELF AN OL' LADY-- OR HE'S FINALLY SEEING A PSYCHIATRIST!
THIS A PRIVATE DIATRIBE--OR CAN ANYONE JOIN IN?
WELL, EITHER WAY, IT'S AN IMPROVEMENT... I THINK.
HI, ROBBIE. GLORY AND I WERE JUST DISCUSSING JONAH'S GOOD POINTS...
...WHICH TOOK ALL OF THREE SECONDS!
ACTUALLY, PETE, YOU SHOULD GIVE OUR FEARLESS LEADER A LITTLE MORE CREDIT.
BRINGGG!
APPARENTLY, THIS MARLA MADISON HELPED JONAH BUILD THAT SPIDER-SLAYER OF HIS!* THEY'VE BEEN KEEPING COMPANY EVER SINCE.
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE A WOMAN'S INFLUENCE WILL MELLOW HIM.
SURE-- LIKE EVA BRAUN MELLOWED ADOLPH HITLER!
HELLO?
* SEVERAL ISSUES BACK, RIGHT?--LEN.
PETER, IT'S FOR YOU!
IT'S...THE POLICE!
HUH?
HELLO?
OH, HI... YOU'VE BEEN WHAT? ...OH, LORD!
OKAY, TRY TO KEEP COOL! I'M ON MY WAY!
ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO HELP?
SOMETHING WRONG, SON?
THANKS, ROBBIE. I APPRECIATE THE OFFER. I'LL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS I KNOW.
'CAUSE, FRANKLY, BEFORE THIS IS OVER-- I'VE GOT A FEELING I'M GONNA NEED ALL THE HELP I CAN GET!

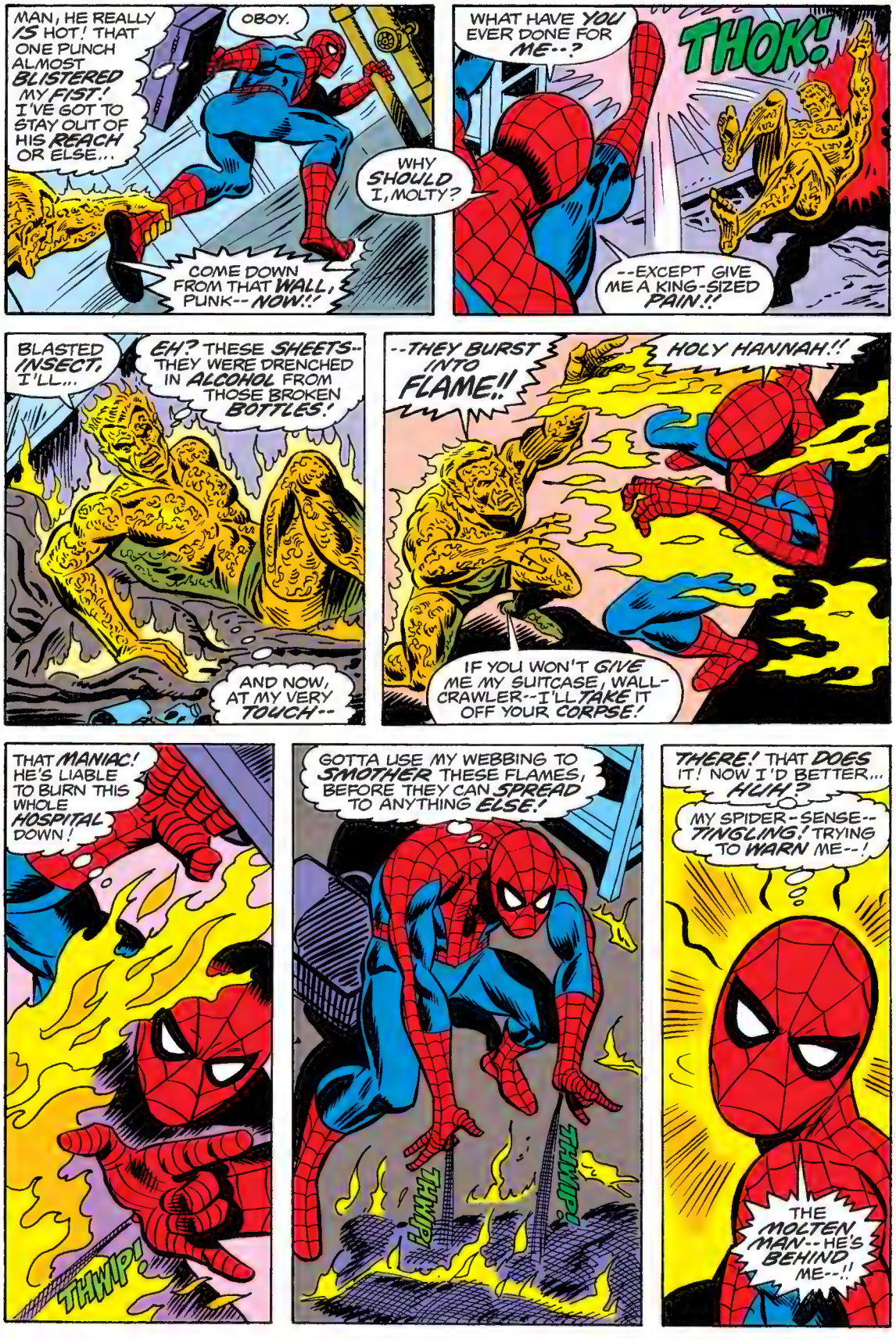
AS THE WONDROUS WEB-SLINGER, OUR HERO HAS HAD MORE THAN HIS FAIR SHARE OF RUN-INS WITH THE POLICE--
--BUT NEVER HAS HE BEEN MORE CONFUSED IN HIS DEALINGS WITH NEW YORK'S FINEST THAN HE IS NOW!
I'D LIKE TO SEE LIZ ALLEN PLEASE!
AND WHEN THE PERPLEXED PETER HAS BEEN SHOWN TO HER CELL...
WELL, HERE'S ANOTHER FINE MESS YOU'VE GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO! YOU OKAY, LIZ... OR IS THAT A STUPID QUESTION?
I...I'M FINE, PETER. THANK YOU FOR COMING.
AS IF I WOULDN'T.
WANT TO TELL ME ABOUT IT?
THE DESK SARGEANT SAYS YOU'RE ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTED ROBBERY--TRYING TO STEAL CERTAIN DRUGS AND CHEMICALS FROM THE HOSPITAL--
--WHICH HAS TO BE ONE OF THE MOST RIDICULOUS THINGS I'VE EVER...
PETER, IT...IT'S TRUE!
YOU'RE KIDDING.
I ONLY WISH I WAS.
I HAD TO DO WHAT I DID, PETER. I DIDN'T HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE!
BUT WHY, LIZ?
I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, PETER--PLEASE DON'T ASK ME TO! JUST TELL MY POOR HARRY...
...I'M SORRY.
I CALLED JOE ROBERTSON, AND HE'LL ARRANGE FOR LIZ'S BAIL--BUT GOD ONLY KNOWS HOW I'M GOING TO EXPLAIN ALL THIS TO HARRY!
A SHOCK LIKE THIS COULD SET HIS PSYCHO-THERAPY BACK LIGHT-YEARS!
THERE IS OBVIOUSLY A DARN SIGHT MORE TO THIS SITUATION THAN LIZ WILL ADMIT--
--AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-SNOOP TO FIND OUT EXACTLY WHAT!

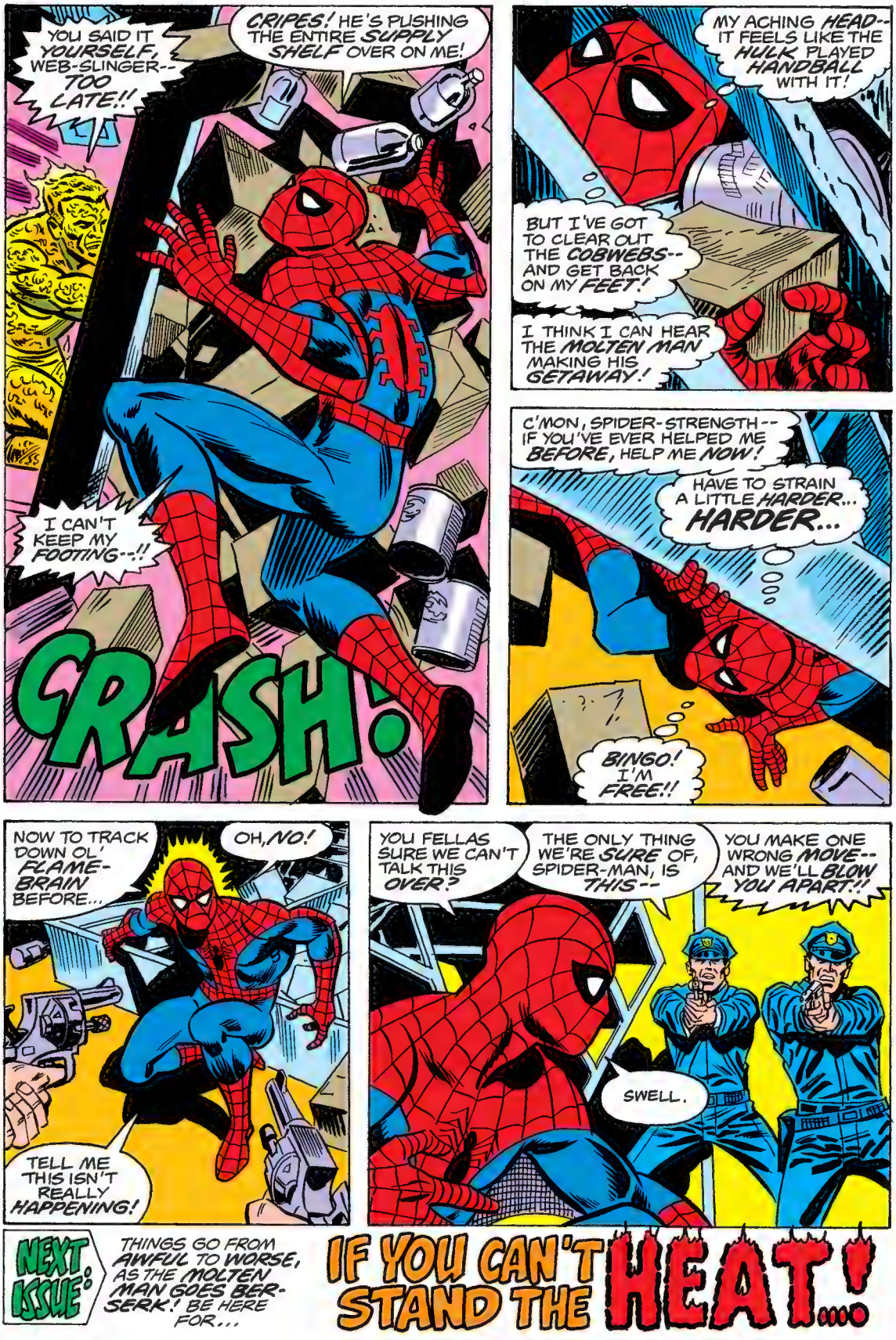

I CAN'T HELP FEELING THIS IS PARTLY MY FAULT!
IF ONLY I'D STOPPED LIZ WHEN I SAW HER RUSHING PAST! IF ONLY...
OKAY, PARKER-- COOL IT! THOSE "IFS" CAN KILL YOU!
THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE THOUGH!
LIZ HAS EVERYTHING GOING FOR HER...
...A GOOD JOB... A GUY WHO WORSHIPS THE GROUND SHE WALKS ON...
WHY WOULD SHE THROW IT ALL AWAY... UNLESS SHE REALLY DIDN'T HAVE ANY CHOICE...
...UNLESS SOMEBODY FORCED HER!
WELL, WHATEVER THE REASON, THE FIRST PLACE I'D BETTER CHECK FOR CLUES IS HERE, IN LIZ'S APART... HUH?
THIS GUNK ON HER WINDOW-SILL-- AS IF SOMETHING HAD BEEN MELTED HERE--!
AND THESE FOOTPRINTS-- BURNED RIGHT INTO HER CARPETING--!
CRIPES! WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!
THERE IS SOMEBODY ELSE RESPONSIBLE FOR LIZ'S ACTIONS--
--AND, IF LUCK IS WITH ME FOR A CHANGE, THERE MAY STILL BE TIME TO STOP HIM!!


NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL: FOR MORE THAN 58 YEARS, PEOPLE HAVE COME HERE, SEEKING RELIEF FROM THEIR TORMENT AND SUFFERING-- AND OFTEN FINDING IT...
...WHICH MAKES THIS MYSTERIOUS GENTLEMAN'S PRESENCE HERE NOT AT ALL UNUSUAL!
I'VE MADE IT PAST THE HOSPITAL GUARDS UNSEEN...
...BUT I STILL CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL!
BEING DISCOVERED NOW COULD COST ME MY LIFE!
THEY'VE KEPT THIS BASEMENT STORAGE ROOM SECURELY LOCKED--
SKRAK!
--BUT NOTHING WILL KEEP ME FROM MY GOAL!!
THIS IS ALL MY IMBECILIC STEP-SISTER'S FAULT!
IF LIZ HADN'T BEEN CAUGHT WHILE TRYING TO STEAL THESE MATERIALS FOR ME--
--I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN FORCED TO EXPOSE MYSELF THIS WAY!
BUT NOW THAT I HAVE WHAT I REQUIRE--
--I'LL BE ABLE TO COMPLETE MY WORK BEFORE...
EH?
I'VE BURNED THRU THIS PAIR OF ASBESTOS GLOVES MUCH FASTER THAN THE LAST PAIR!
I MUST FINISH MY SPECIAL FORMULA BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
I'VE GOT A HOT NEWS-FLASH FOR YOU, BRIGHT-EYES...
IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE!!
SPIDER-MAN?!?


IN PERSON, ACE! I'M FLATTERED YOU REMEM...
UUNNHH!
SHOK!
LET GO OF ME, YOU PUERILE FOOL!
NOT A CHANCE, CHUM! I'M STICKING TO YOU LIKE...HEY!!
YOU REALLY OUGHT'A DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WARDROBE, FELLA!
KRIPPP!!
IT'S FALLING APART AT THE SEAMS!!
NO, WEB-SLINGER-- NOT "FALLING" APART!
MY CLOTHING IS BURNING APART, JUST LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE THAT TOUCHES THE BLAZING-HOT BODY OF...
...THE MOLTEN MAN!!


BUT I HAVE NO MORE TIME TO WASTE ON YOU, WALL-CRAWLER--
--NOT WHEN MY VERY LIFE IS ON THE LINE!!
THWUMP!
CHASH!
CHASH!
I'VE GOT TO RECOVER MY SUITCASE AND FLEE--
--BEFORE THE NOISE OF OUR BATTLE BRINGS THE HOSPITAL GUARDS!!
SORRY, CHARLIE--BUT SEEING AS HOW THAT SUITCASE IS STUFFED WITH STOLEN GOODS...
...I JUST CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT!
"AT LEAST, NOT SO LONG AS I HAVE MY TRUSTY WEBBING!"
WHA--?!?
MY SUITCASE!! GIVE IT BACK TO ME!!
I MEAN IT, INSECT-- GIVE IT TO ME!!
OH, I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU, MOLTY...
...IN SPADES!!
AARRGGHH!!
POW!
WHUDD!


MAN, HE REALLY IS HOT! THAT ONE PUNCH ALMOST BLISTERED MY FIST! I'VE GOT TO STAY OUT OF HIS REACH OR ELSE...
OBOY.
WHY SHOULD I, MOLTY?
COME DOWN FROM THAT WALL, PUNK-- NOW!!
WHAT HAVE YOU EVER DONE FOR ME--?
THOK!
--EXCEPT GIVE ME A KING-SIZED PAIN!!
BLASTED INSECT, I'LL...
EH? THESE SHEETS-- THEY WERE DRENCHED IN ALCOHOL FROM THOSE BROKEN BOTTLES!
AND NOW, AT MY VERY TOUCH--
--THEY BURST INTO FLAME!!
HOLY HANNAH!!
IF YOU WON'T GIVE ME MY SUITCASE, WALL-CRAWLER--I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR CORPSE!
THAT MANIAC! HE'S LIABLE TO BURN THIS WHOLE HOSPITAL DOWN!
THWIP!
GOTTA USE MY WEBBING TO SMOTHER THESE FLAMES, BEFORE THEY CAN SPREAD TO ANYTHING ELSE!
THWIP!
THWIP!
THERE! THAT DOES IT! NOW I'D BETTER... HUH?
MY SPIDER-SENSE-- TINGLING! TRYING TO WARN ME--!
THE MOLTEN MAN-- HE'S BEHIND ME--!!


YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, WEB-SLINGER-- TOO LATE!!
CRIPES! HE'S PUSHING THE ENTIRE SUPPLY SHELF OVER ON ME!
I CAN'T KEEP MY FOOTING--!!
CRASH!
MY ACHING HEAD-- IT FEELS LIKE THE HULK PLAYED HANDBALL WITH IT!
BUT I'VE GOT TO CLEAR OUT THE COBWEBS-- AND GET BACK ON MY FEET!
I THINK I CAN HEAR THE MOLTEN MAN MAKING HIS GETAWAY!
C'MON, SPIDER-STRENGTH-- IF YOU'VE EVER HELPED ME BEFORE, HELP ME NOW!
HAVE TO STRAIN A LITTLE HARDER... HARDER...
BINGO! I'M FREE!!
NOW TO TRACK DOWN OL' FLAME-BRAIN BEFORE...
OH, NO!
TELL ME THIS ISN'T REALLY HAPPENING!
YOU FELLAS SURE WE CAN'T TALK THIS OVER?
THE ONLY THING WE'RE SURE OF, SPIDER-MAN, IS THIS--
YOU MAKE ONE WRONG MOVE-- AND WE'LL BLOW YOU APART!!
SWELL.
NEXT ISSUE:
THINGS GO FROM AWFUL TO WORSE, AS THE MOLTEN MAN GOES BERSERK! BE HERE FOR...
IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT!...

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
HELP ME--BEFORE THIS FIRE KILLS US ALL!!
WOUNDED--IN BLINDING PAIN--THE WEB-SLINGER FIGHTS HIS MOST DESPERATE BATTLE--TO SAVE THE LIFE OF LIZ ALLEN!!
ANDRU + ROMITA
THE MOLTEN MAN'S LAST STAND!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

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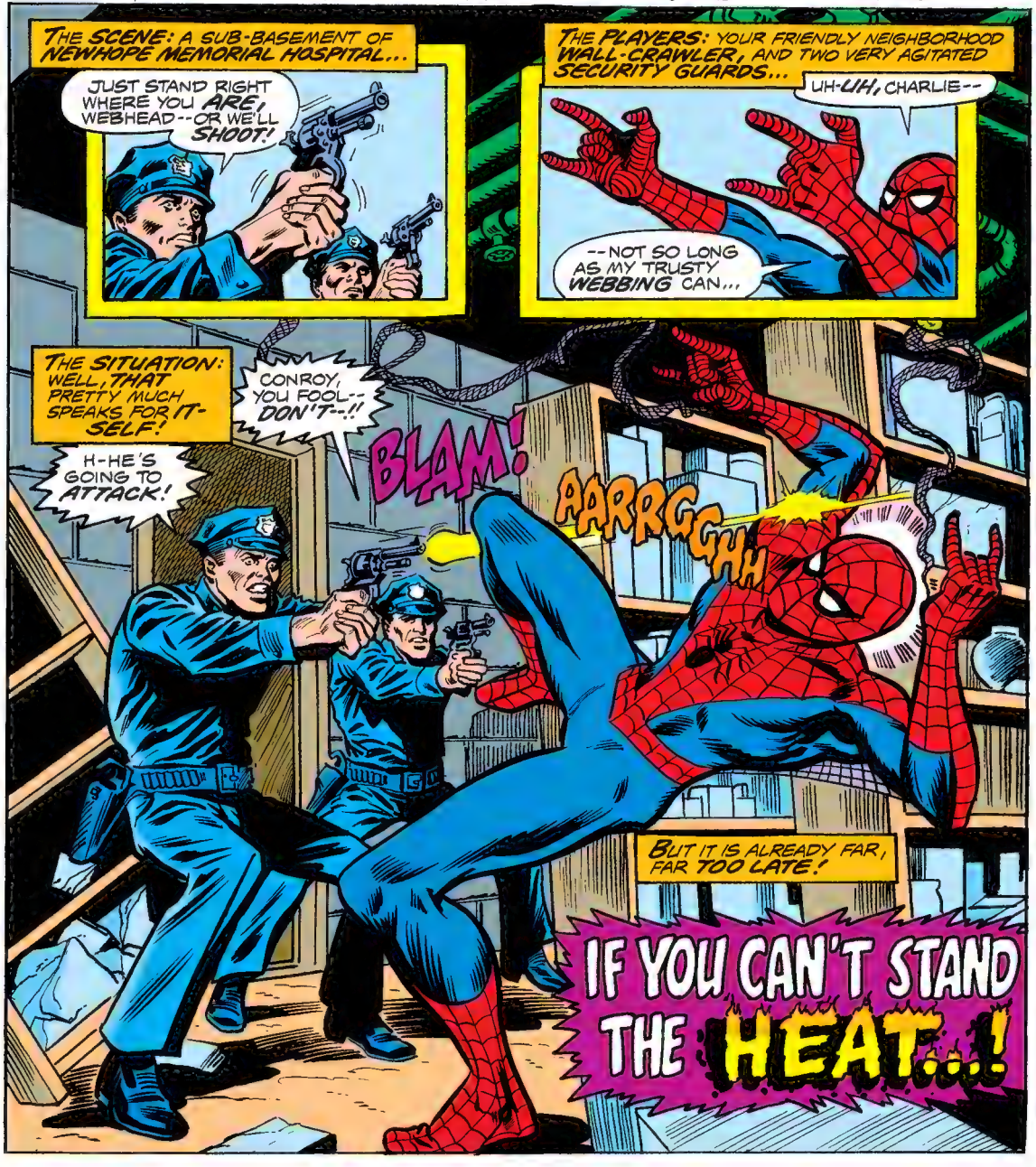
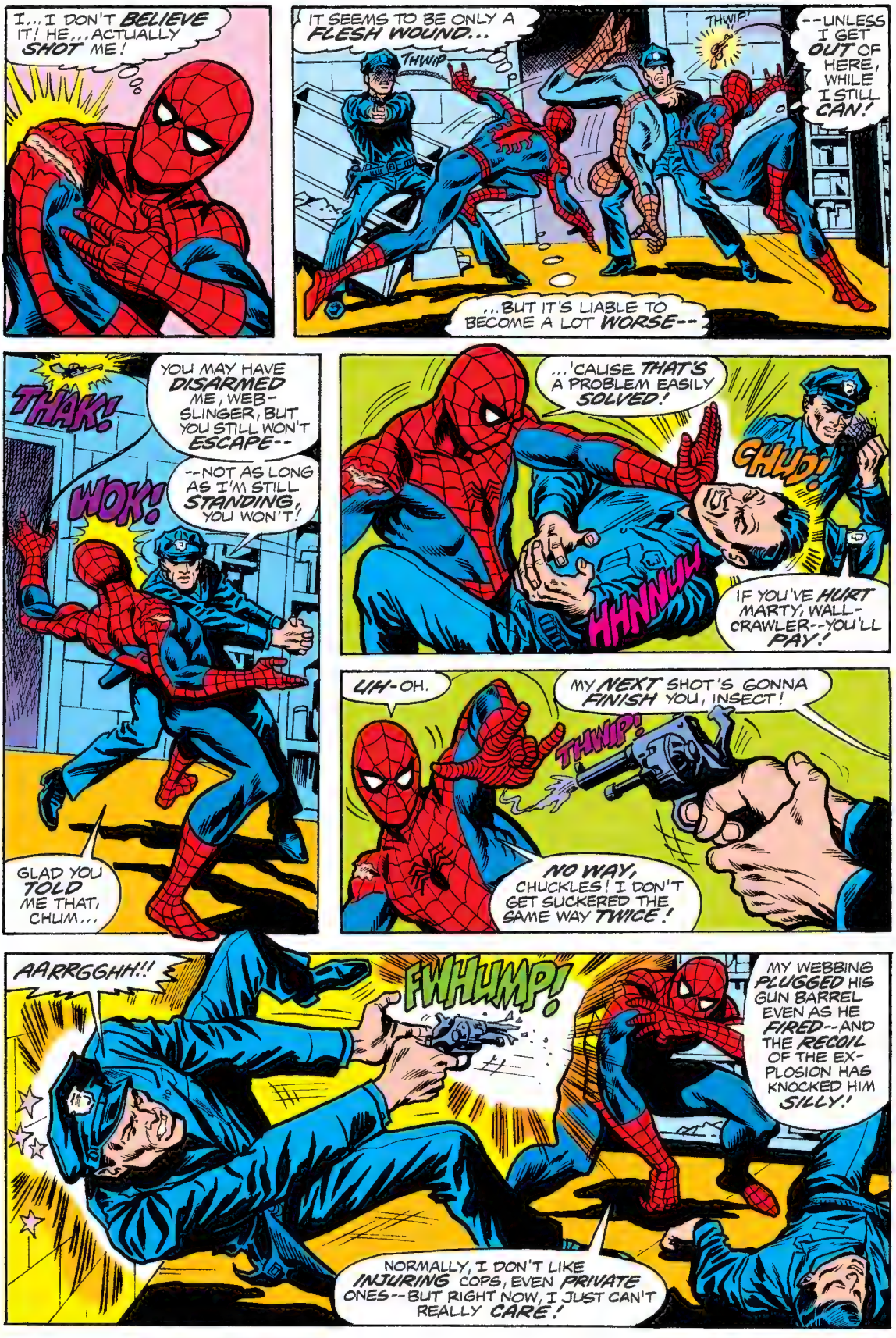
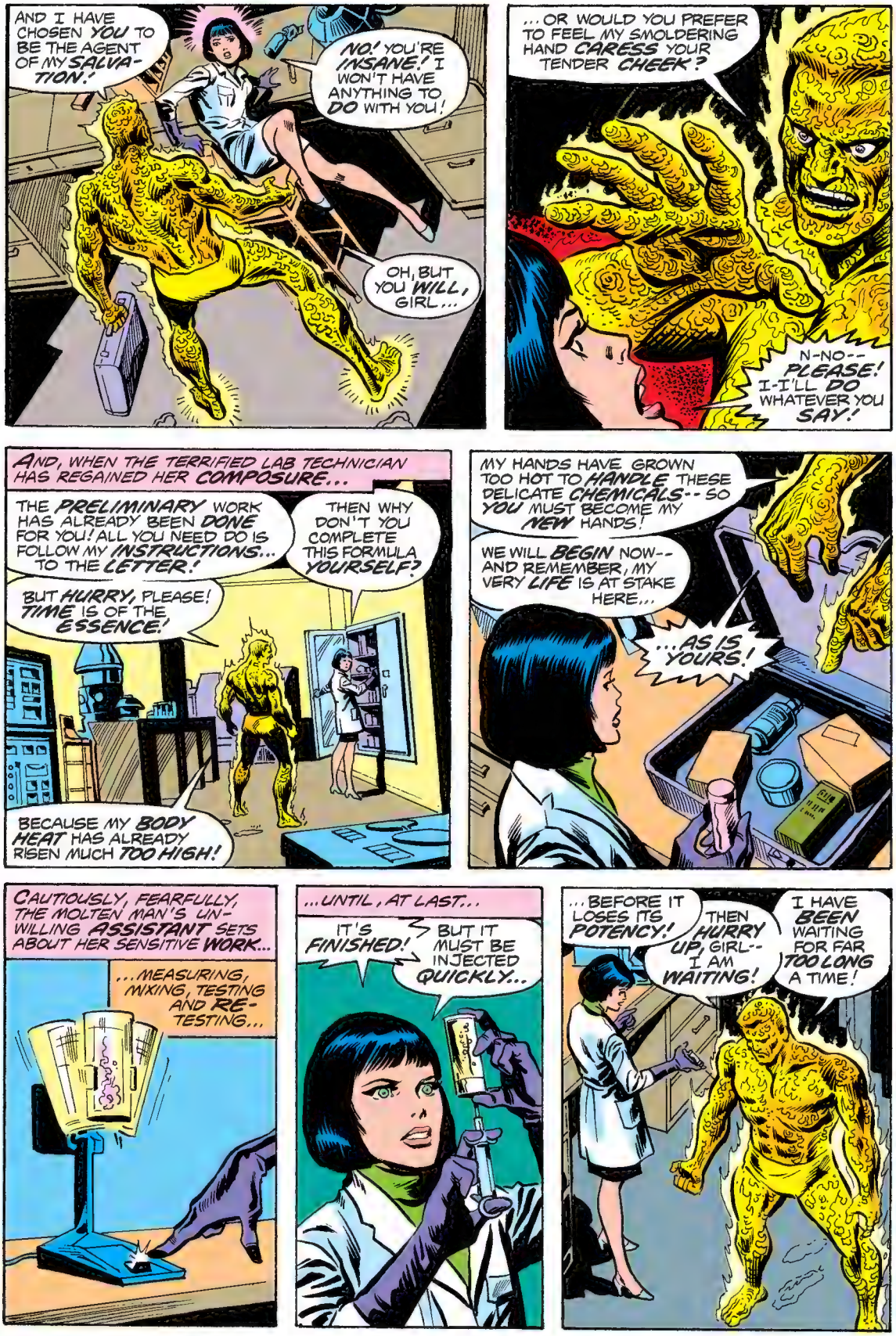

THE SCENE: A SUB-BASEMENT OF NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL...
JUST STAND RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, WEBHEAD--OR WE'LL SHOOT!
THE PLAYERS: YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WALL-CRAWLER, AND TWO VERY AGITATED SECURITY GUARDS...
UH-UH, CHARLIE--
--NOT SO LONG AS MY TRUSTY WEBBING CAN...
THE SITUATION: WELL, THAT PRETTY MUCH SPEAKS FOR ITSELF!
CONROY, YOU FOOL--DON'T--!!
BLAM!
AARRGGHH
H-HE'S GOING TO ATTACK!
BUT IT IS ALREADY FAR, FAR TOO LATE!
IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT...!

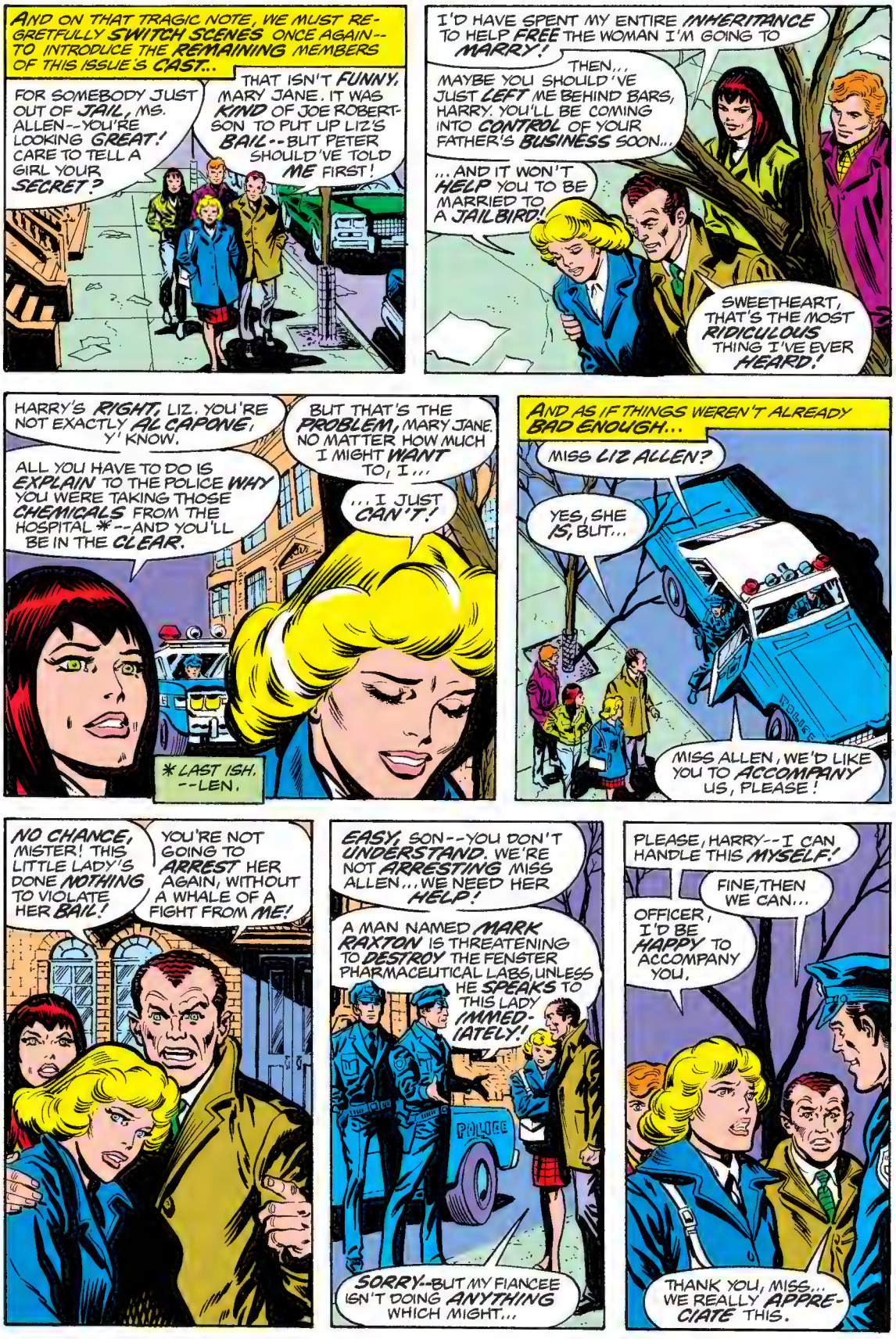

I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE... ACTUALLY SHOT ME!
IT SEEMS TO BE ONLY A FLESH WOUND...
THWIP!
THWIP!
--UNLESS I GET OUT OF HERE, WHILE I STILL CAN!
...BUT IT'S LIABLE TO BECOME A LOT WORSE--
THAK!
WOK!
YOU MAY HAVE DISARMED ME, WEB-SLINGER, BUT YOU STILL WON'T ESCAPE--
--NOT AS LONG AS I'M STILL STANDING, YOU WON'T!
GLAD YOU TOLD ME THAT, CHUM...
...'CAUSE THAT'S A PROBLEM EASILY SOLVED!
CHUD!
HHNNUH
IF YOU'VE HURT MARTY, WALL-CRAWLER--YOU'LL PAY!
UH-OH.
MY NEXT SHOT'S GONNA FINISH YOU, INSECT!
THWIP!
NO WAY, CHUCKLES! I DON'T GET SUCKERED THE SAME WAY TWICE!
AARRGGHH!!
FWHUMP!
MY WEBBING PLUGGED HIS GUN BARREL EVEN AS HE FIRED--AND THE RECOIL OF THE EXPLOSION HAS KNOCKED HIM SILLY!
NORMALLY, I DON'T LIKE INJURING COPS, EVEN PRIVATE ONES--BUT RIGHT NOW, I JUST CAN'T REALLY CARE!

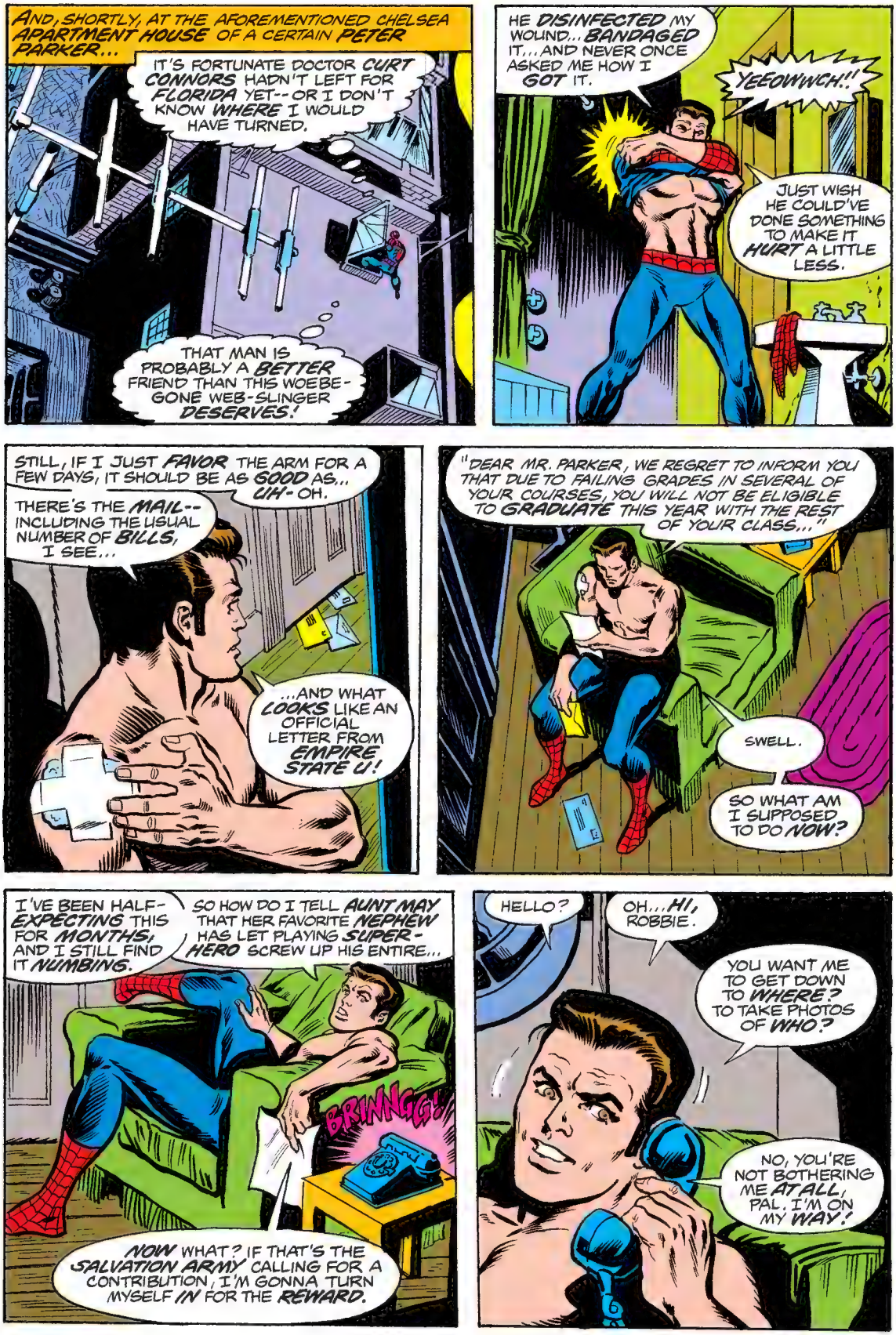
I ONLY WANT TO ESCAPE FROM THIS PLACE BEFORE I WIND UP A PATIENT HERE...OR WORSE...
HEY-- THAT'S SPIDER-MAN! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
SWELL. JUST WHAT I NEEDED.
I CAN'T SPARE THE TIME TO ARGUE, GANG, SO I'LL JUST USE MY TRUSTY WEB-BING TO...
FHISHT!
KRIPES! MY STUPID WEB-SHOOTER'S -- EMPTY!!
THEN THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO AVOID-- THIS.!!
THWOK!
HUHFF
WELL DONE, DOCTOR HONG! YOU'VE STUNNED HIM!
WAIT'LL I TELL MY WIFE ABOUT THIS!
SHE THOUGHT THOSE MAIL-ORDER KUNG FU LESSONS I TOOK WERE A WASTE!
ALL WE HAVE TO DO NOW, JERRY, IS HOLD THIS MADMAN--AND SHE'LL KNOW BETTER!
UUNNHHHH
LANDED RIGHT ON MY INJURED SHOULDER! THE PAIN IS... BLINDING!
GOTTA MAKE MY MOVE NOW... OR I'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
HATE TO BURST YOUR BALLOON, DOC--BUT YOUR WIFE WAS RIGHT!
YOU GIVE HER MY BEST REGARDS ANYWAY, OKAY?
HUNFFF
AND IN THE FEW SECONDS IT TAKES THE TWO STARTLED DOCTORS TO RECOVER...
WE'RE TOO LATE! SPIDER-MAN HAS ESCAPED!!
BY THE SKIN OF HIS WEB-COVERED TEETH!
THIS WHOLE MESS IS THE FAULT OF THE MOLTEN MAN--AND, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, HE'S GOING TO PAY FOR IT!

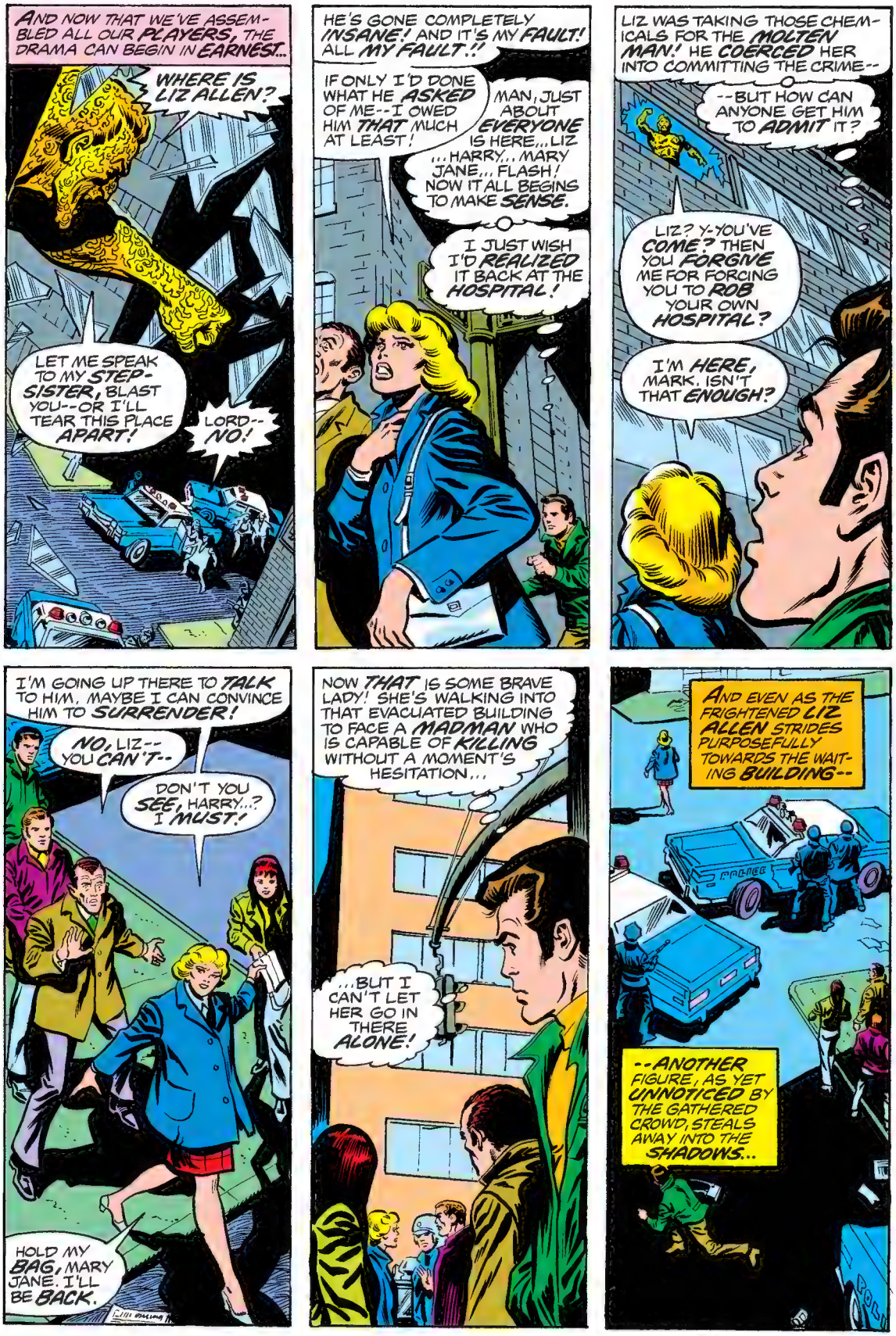
AND EVEN AS OUR HAPLESS HERO REFILLS HIS EMPTY WEB-SHOOTERS, THEN SWINGS PAINFULLY AWAY TOWARDS HIS CHELSEA APARTMENT, WE'D BEST TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN--
FENSTER PHAR
--SPECIFICALLY, TO THE LABORATOR-IES OF THE FENSTER PHARMA-CEUTICAL CORPORATION...
...WHERE WE CAN WATCH A MINOR DIS-ASTER DEVELOP INTO A FULL-FLEDGED CATASTROPHE!
HOLY SMOKE!
WE GOT US A FIRE OUT HERE!!
I KEEP TELLIN' YA TA WATCH WHERE YA THROW YER USED BUTTS, JOE! NOW LOOK WHAT YA DONE!
WHAT'RE YOU JABBERIN' ABOUT, BENNY? YOU KNOW I QUIT SMOKING LAST WEEK!
WHY DON'TCHA STOP TALKIN' THRU YOUR HAT --AND GET THAT FIRE EXTINGUISH-ER WORKING!
THUS OCCUPIED, NEITHER GUARD NOTICES A SHADOWY FIGURE STEAL PAST...
UNAUTHOR PERSONNEL KEEP OUT
...THEN RACE DOWN AN ISOLATED CORRIDOR, TO PAUSE BEFORE A CERTAIN DOOR...
...AND THEN...
WHY DO I KEEP WORKING OVER-TIME THIS WAY?
THE BOSS DOESN'T SEEM TO APPRECIATE IT AND...
WOW, IT'S REALLY GOTTEN HOT IN HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN!
AND IT IS BOUND TO GET A GOOD DEAL HOTTER, WOMAN, BEFORE YOU AND I ARE THROUGH!
M-MOTHER OF MERCY! WH-WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU?
I AM CALLED THE MOLTEN MAN, MY DEAR--
-- FOR REASONS I TRUST ARE OBVIOUS!!

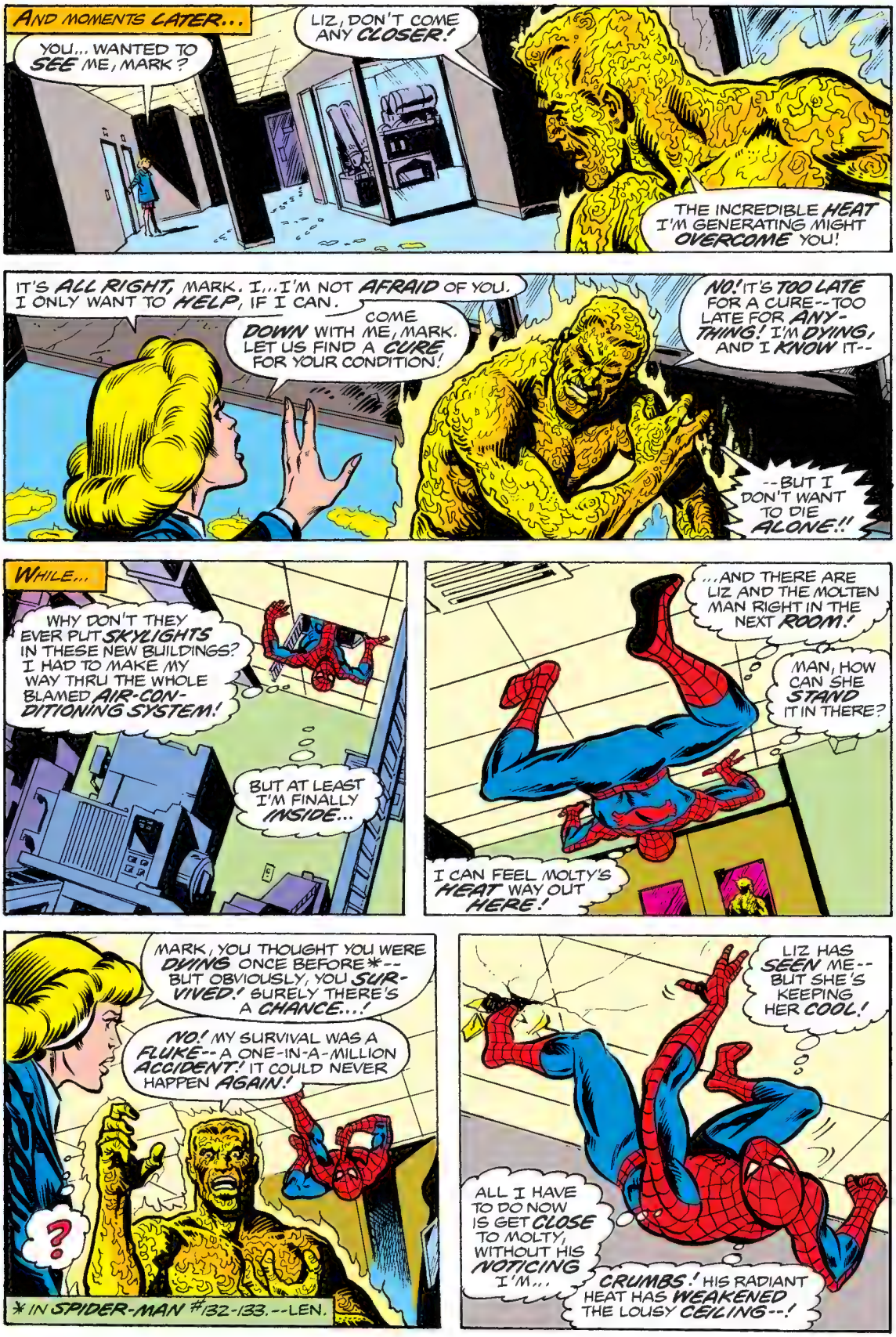

AND I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO BE THE AGENT OF MY SALVATION!
NO! YOU'RE INSANE! I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
OH, BUT YOU WILL, GIRL...
...OR WOULD YOU PREFER TO FEEL MY SMOLDERING HAND CARESS YOUR TENDER CHEEK?
N-NO-- PLEASE! I-I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU SAY!
AND, WHEN THE TERRIFIED LAB TECHNICIAN HAS REGAINED HER COMPOSURE...
THE PRELIMINARY WORK HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE FOR YOU! ALL YOU NEED DO IS FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS... TO THE LETTER!
THEN WHY DON'T YOU COMPLETE THIS FORMULA YOURSELF?
BUT HURRY, PLEASE! TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!
BECAUSE MY BODY HEAT HAS ALREADY RISEN MUCH TOO HIGH!
MY HANDS HAVE GROWN TOO HOT TO HANDLE THESE DELICATE CHEMICALS-- SO YOU MUST BECOME MY NEW HANDS!
WE WILL BEGIN NOW-- AND REMEMBER, MY VERY LIFE IS AT STAKE HERE...
...AS IS YOURS!
CAUTIOUSLY, FEARFULLY, THE MOLTEN MAN'S UNWILLING ASSISTANT SETS ABOUT HER SENSITIVE WORK...
...MEASURING, MIXING, TESTING AND RE-TESTING...
...UNTIL, AT LAST...
IT'S FINISHED!
BUT IT MUST BE INJECTED QUICKLY...
...BEFORE IT LOSES ITS POTENCY!
THEN HURRY UP, GIRL-- I AM WAITING!
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR FAR TOO LONG A TIME!

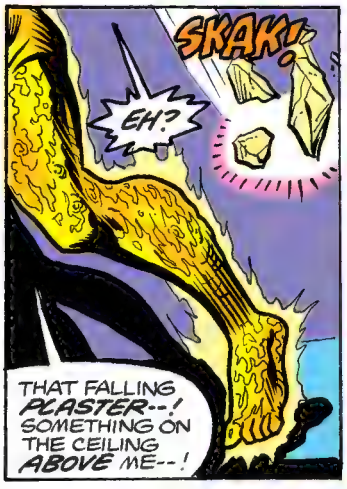
I...I CAN FEEL IT WORKING ALREADY!
MY EPIDERMAL TEMPERATURE IS DROPPING...
THE LIQUID METAL ALLOY I'D ABSORBED THRU MY SKIN IS DISSOLVING...
...UNTIL...
...UNTIL...
...I'M NO LONGER THE MOLTEN MAN!
AT LONG LAST, I'M SIMPLY MARK RAXTON ONCE MORE!
I'M... GLAD FOR YOU.
PLEASE, YOU'VE NO NEED TO FEAR ME ANYMORE.
I APOLOGIZE FOR THREATENING YOU-- BUT A DESPERATE MAN DOES WHATEVER HE HAS TO.
I'LL BE LEAVING NOW-- AND YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME AGAIN.
NO ONE IN THE WORLD WILL EVER AGAIN HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE MOLTEN...
EH?
NO.
NO! IT CAN'T BE HAPPENING AGAIN! IT CAN'T BE!!
THE REACTION HAS REVERSED ITSELF-- BUT THAT ANTIDOTE WAS MY FINAL HOPE!
I'M THE MOLTEN MAN AGAIN-- EVEN WORSE THAN I WAS BEFORE!!
SKRASH!
WHAT DO I DO NOW?
LORD, WHAT DO I DO NOW??

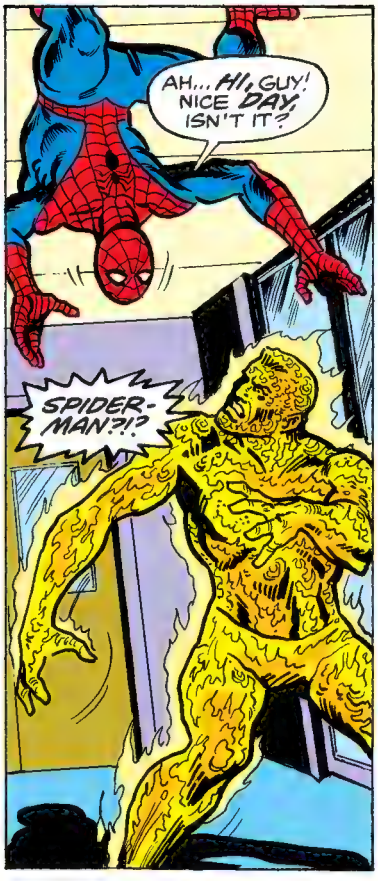

AND ON THAT TRAGIC NOTE, WE MUST REGRETFULLY SWITCH SCENES ONCE AGAIN--TO INTRODUCE THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THIS ISSUE'S CAST...
FOR SOMEBODY JUST OUT OF JAIL, MS. ALLEN--YOU'RE LOOKING GREAT! CARE TO TELL A GIRL YOUR SECRET?
THAT ISN'T FUNNY, MARY JANE. IT WAS KIND OF JOE ROBERTSON TO PUT UP LIZ'S BAIL--BUT PETER SHOULD'VE TOLD ME FIRST!
I'D HAVE SPENT MY ENTIRE INHERITANCE TO HELP FREE THE WOMAN I'M GOING TO MARRY!
THEN,.., MAYBE YOU SHOULD'VE JUST LEFT ME BEHIND BARS, HARRY. YOU'LL BE COMING INTO CONTROL OF YOUR FATHER'S BUSINESS SOON...
...AND IT WON'T HELP YOU TO BE MARRIED TO A JAILBIRD!
SWEETHEART, THAT'S THE MOST RIDICULOUS THING I'VE EVER HEARD!
HARRY'S RIGHT, LIZ. YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY AL CAPONE, Y' KNOW.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS EXPLAIN TO THE POLICE WHY YOU WERE TAKING THOSE CHEMICALS FROM THE HOSPITAL *--AND YOU'LL BE IN THE CLEAR.
BUT THAT'S THE PROBLEM, MARY JANE. NO MATTER HOW MUCH I MIGHT WANT TO, I...
...I JUST CAN'T!
* LAST ISH. --LEN.
AND AS IF THINGS WEREN'T ALREADY BAD ENOUGH...
MISS LIZ ALLEN?
YES, SHE IS, BUT...
POLICE
MISS ALLEN, WE'D LIKE YOU TO ACCOMPANY US, PLEASE!
NO CHANCE, MISTER! THIS LITTLE LADY'S DONE NOTHING TO VIOLATE HER BAIL!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ARREST HER AGAIN, WITHOUT A WHALE OF A FIGHT FROM ME!
EASY, SON--YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. WE'RE NOT ARRESTING MISS ALLEN...WE NEED HER HELP!
A MAN NAMED MARK RAXTON IS THREATENING TO DESTROY THE FENSTER PHARMACEUTICAL LABS, UNLESS HE SPEAKS TO THIS LADY IMMEDIATELY!
POLICE
SORRY--BUT MY FIANCEE ISN'T DOING ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT...
PLEASE, HARRY--I CAN HANDLE THIS MYSELF!
FINE, THEN WE CAN...
OFFICER, I'D BE HAPPY TO ACCOMPANY YOU.
THANK YOU, MISS... WE REALLY APPRECIATE THIS.

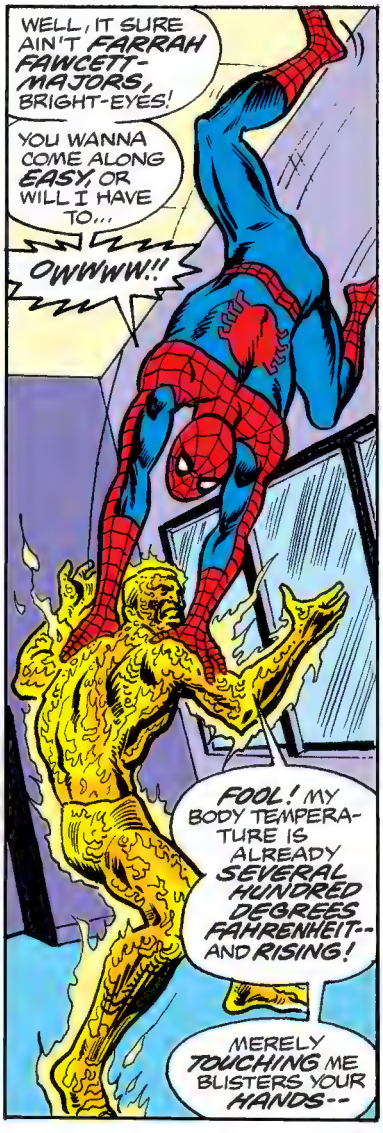

AND, SHORTLY, AT THE AFOREMENTIONED CHELSEA APARTMENT HOUSE OF A CERTAIN PETER PARKER...
IT'S FORTUNATE DOCTOR CURT CONNORS HADN'T LEFT FOR FLORIDA YET--OR I DON'T KNOW WHERE I WOULD HAVE TURNED.
THAT MAN IS PROBABLY A BETTER FRIEND THAN THIS WOEBE-GONE WEB-SLINGER DESERVES!
HE DISINFECTED MY WOUND... BANDAGED IT... AND NEVER ONCE ASKED ME HOW I GOT IT.
YEEOWINCH!!
JUST WISH HE COULD'VE DONE SOMETHING TO MAKE IT HURT A LITTLE LESS.
STILL, IF I JUST FAVOR THE ARM FOR A FEW DAYS, IT SHOULD BE AS GOOD AS... UH-OH.
THERE'S THE MAIL--INCLUDING THE USUAL NUMBER OF BILLS, I SEE...
...AND WHAT LOOKS LIKE AN OFFICIAL LETTER FROM EMPIRE STATE U!
"DEAR MR. PARKER, WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT DUE TO FAILING GRADES IN SEVERAL OF YOUR COURSES, YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO GRADUATE THIS YEAR WITH THE REST OF YOUR CLASS..."
SWELL.
SO WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?
I'VE BEEN HALF-EXPECTING THIS FOR MONTHS, AND I STILL FIND IT NUMBING.
SO HOW DO I TELL AUNT MAY THAT HER FAVORITE NEPHEW HAS LET PLAYING SUPER-HERO SCREW UP HIS ENTIRE...
BRINNGG!
NOW WHAT? IF THAT'S THE SALVATION ARMY CALLING FOR A CONTRIBUTION, I'M GONNA TURN MYSELF IN FOR THE REWARD.
HELLO?
OH... HI, ROBBIE.
YOU WANT ME TO GET DOWN TO WHERE? TO TAKE PHOTOS OF WHO?
NO, YOU'RE NOT BOTHERING ME AT ALL, PAL. I'M ON MY WAY!


AND NOW THAT WE'VE ASSEMBLED ALL OUR PLAYERS, THE DRAMA CAN BEGIN IN EARNEST...
WHERE IS LIZ ALLEN?
LET ME SPEAK TO MY STEP-SISTER, BLAST YOU--OR I'LL TEAR THIS PLACE APART!
LORD--NO!
HE'S GONE COMPLETELY INSANE! AND IT'S MY FAULT! ALL MY FAULT!!
IF ONLY I'D DONE WHAT HE ASKED OF ME--I OWED HIM THAT MUCH AT LEAST!
MAN, JUST ABOUT EVERYONE IS HERE,,, LIZ ,,, HARRY,,, MARY JANE,,, FLASH! NOW IT ALL BEGINS TO MAKE SENSE.
I JUST WISH I'D REALIZED IT BACK AT THE HOSPITAL!
LIZ WAS TAKING THOSE CHEMICALS FOR THE MOLTEN MAN! HE COERCED HER INTO COMMITTING THE CRIME--
--BUT HOW CAN ANYONE GET HIM TO ADMIT IT?
LIZ? Y-YOU'VE COME? THEN YOU FORGIVE ME FOR FORCING YOU TO ROB YOUR OWN HOSPITAL?
I'M HERE, MARK. ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?
I'M GOING UP THERE TO TALK TO HIM, MAYBE I CAN CONVINCE HIM TO SURRENDER!
NO, LIZ--YOU CAN'T--
DON'T YOU SEE, HARRY...? I MUST!
HOLD MY BAG, MARY JANE. I'LL BE BACK.
NOW THAT IS SOME BRAVE LADY! SHE'S WALKING INTO THAT EVACUATED BUILDING TO FACE A MADMAN WHO IS CAPABLE OF KILLING WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION,,,
,,,BUT I CAN'T LET HER GO IN THERE ALONE!
AND EVEN AS THE FRIGHTENED LIZ ALLEN STRIDES PURPOSEFULLY TOWARDS THE WAITING BUILDING--
--ANOTHER FIGURE, AS YET UNNOTICED BY THE GATHERED CROWD, STEALS AWAY INTO THE SHADOWS...

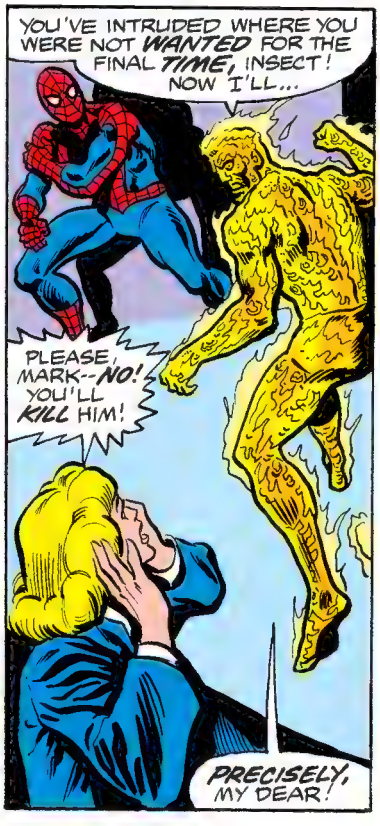

AND MOMENTS LATER...
YOU... WANTED TO SEE ME, MARK?
LIZ, DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
THE INCREDIBLE HEAT I'M GENERATING MIGHT OVERCOME YOU!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MARK. I...I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU. I ONLY WANT TO HELP, IF I CAN.
COME DOWN WITH ME, MARK. LET US FIND A CURE FOR YOUR CONDITION!
NO! IT'S TOO LATE FOR A CURE--TOO LATE FOR ANYTHING! I'M DYING, AND I KNOW IT--
--BUT I DON'T WANT TO DIE ALONE!!
WHILE...
WHY DON'T THEY EVER PUT SKYLIGHTS IN THESE NEW BUILDINGS? I HAD TO MAKE MY WAY THRU THE WHOLE BLAMED AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM!
BUT AT LEAST I'M FINALLY INSIDE...
...AND THERE ARE LIZ AND THE MOLTEN MAN RIGHT IN THE NEXT ROOM!
MAN, HOW CAN SHE STAND IT IN THERE?
I CAN FEEL MOLTY'S HEAT WAY OUT HERE!
MARK, YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE DYING ONCE BEFORE*--BUT OBVIOUSLY, YOU SURVIVED! SURELY THERE'S A CHANCE...!
NO! MY SURVIVAL WAS A FLUKE--A ONE-IN-A-MILLION ACCIDENT! IT COULD NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!
?
* IN SPIDER-MAN #132-133.--LEN.
LIZ HAS SEEN ME--BUT SHE'S KEEPING HER COOL!
ALL I HAVE TO DO NOW IS GET CLOSE TO MOLTY, WITHOUT HIS NOTICING I'M...
CRUMBS! HIS RADIANT HEAT HAS WEAKENED THE LOUSY CEILING--!


SKAK!
EH?
THAT FALLING PLASTER--! SOMETHING ON THE CEILING ABOVE ME--!

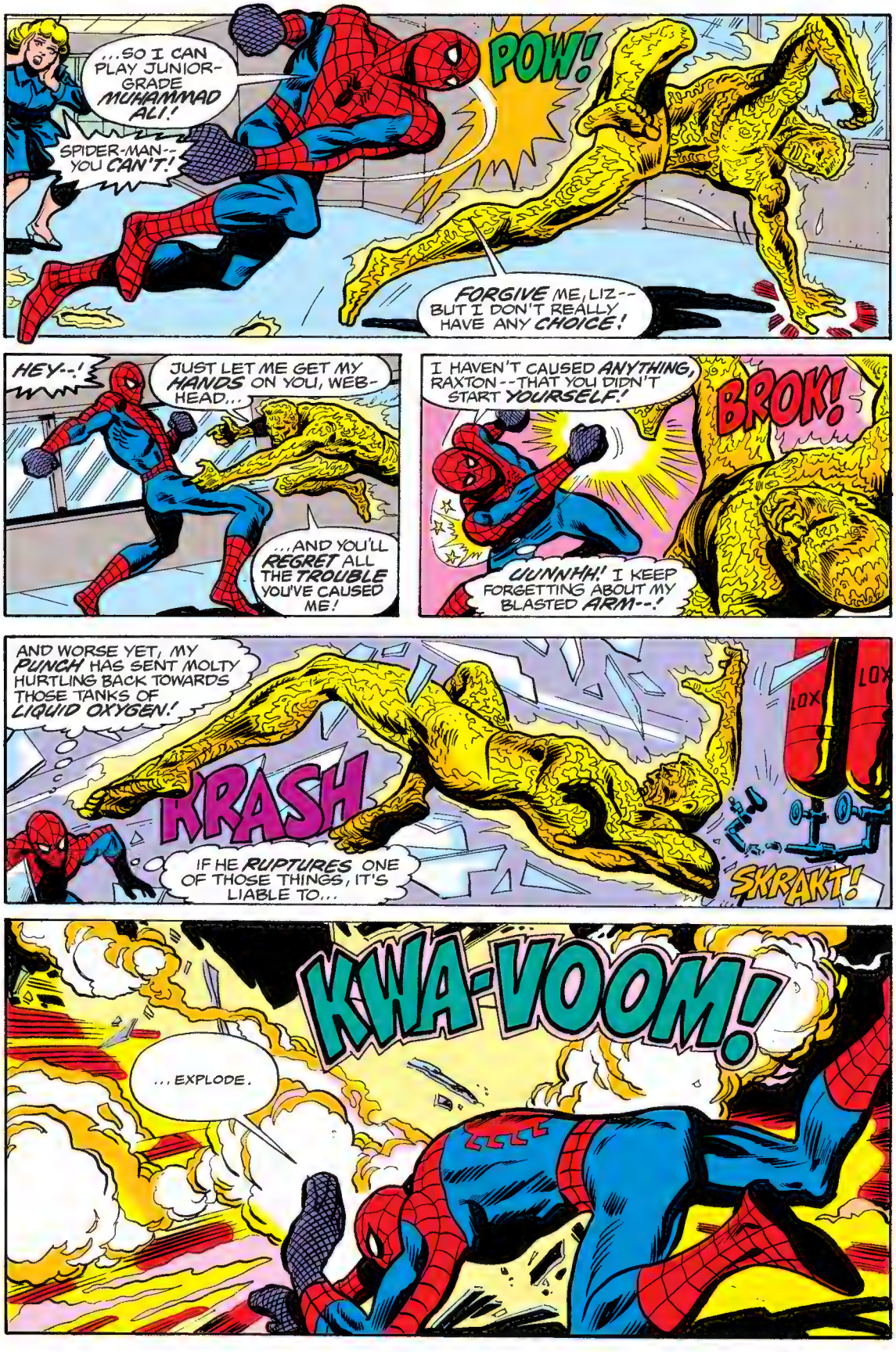

AH... HI, GUY! NICE DAY, ISN'T IT?
SPIDER-MAN?!?

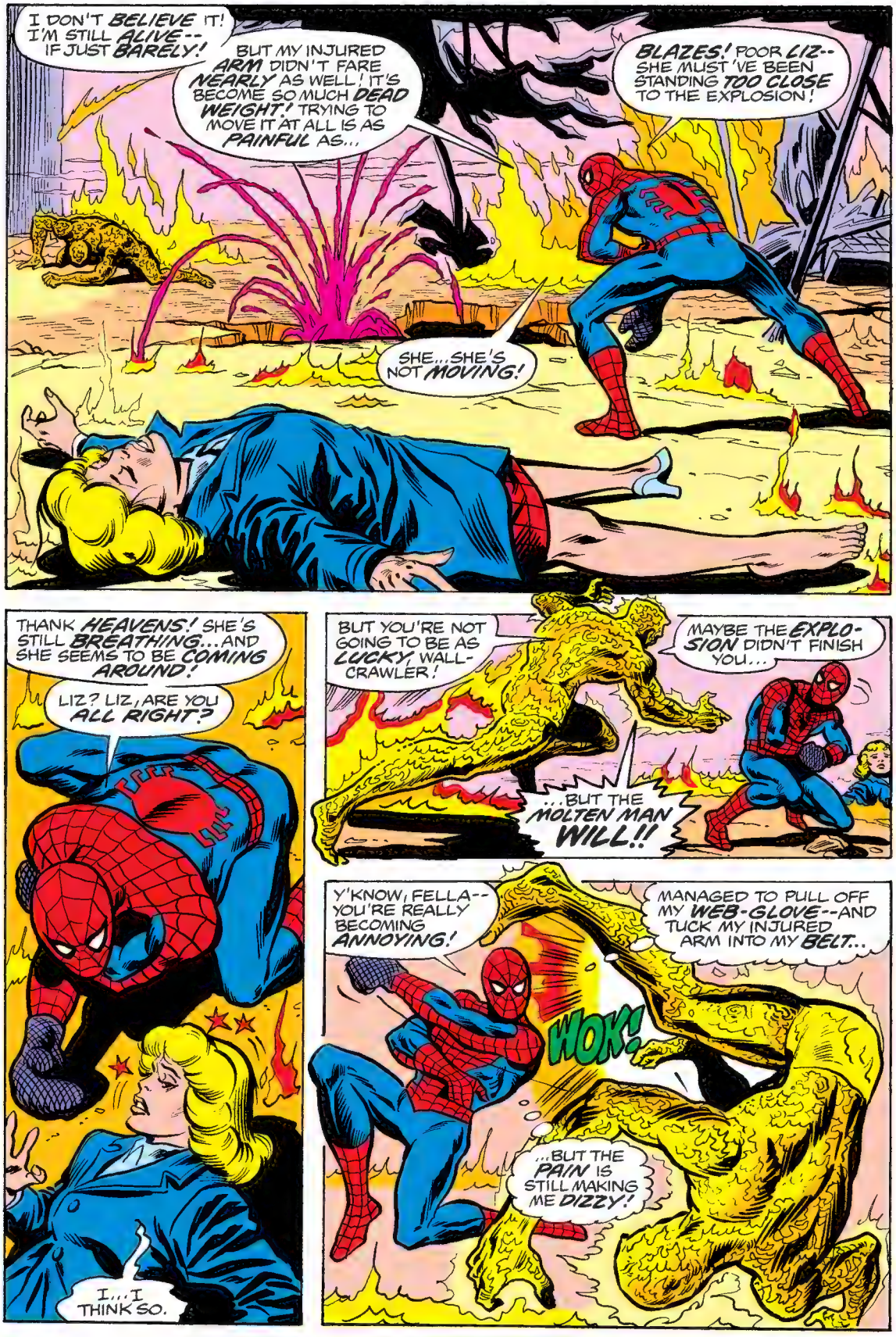

WELL, IT SURE AIN'T FARRAH FAWCETT-MAJORS, BRIGHT-EYES!
YOU WANNA COME ALONG EASY, OR WILL I HAVE TO...
OWWWW!!
FOOL! MY BODY TEMPERATURE IS ALREADY SEVERAL HUNDRED DEGREES FAHRENHEIT--AND RISING!
MERELY TOUCHING ME BLISTERS YOUR HANDS--

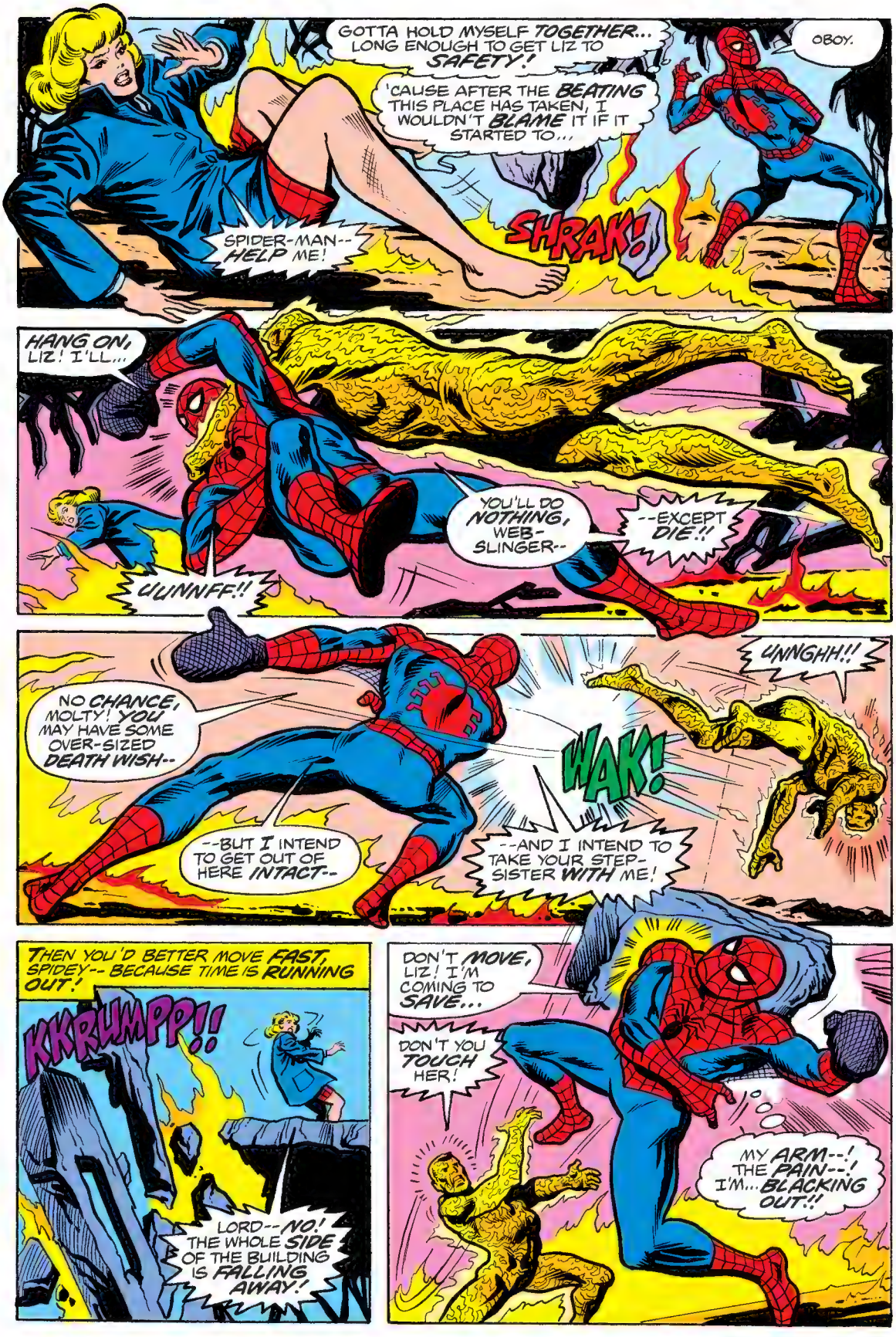
--AND THAT IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!!
AARRGGHH!! M-MY SHOULDER--!!

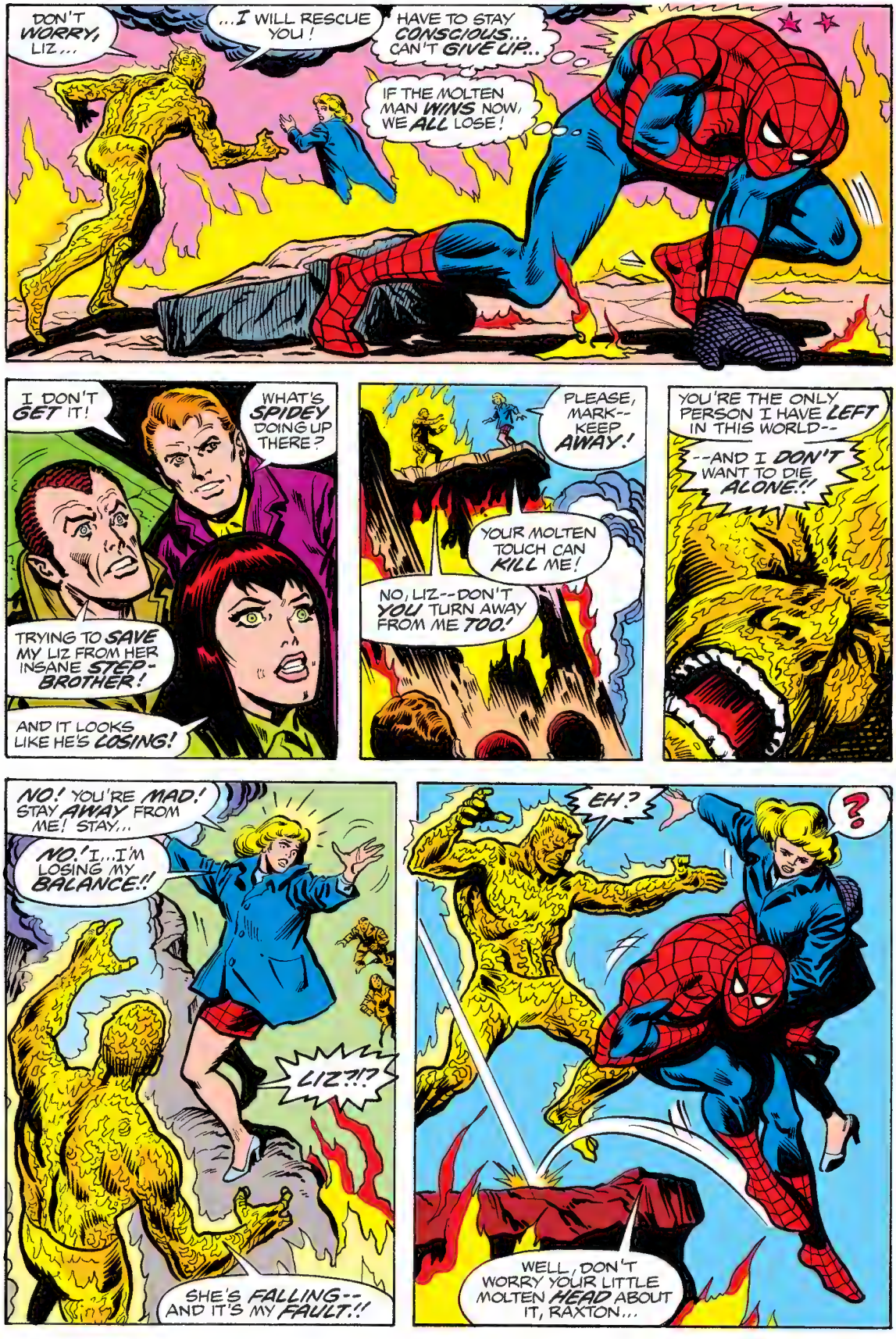

YOU'VE INTRUDED WHERE YOU WERE NOT WANTED FOR THE FINAL TIME, INSECT! NOW I'LL...
PLEASE, MARK--NO! YOU'LL KILL HIM!
PRECISELY, MY DEAR!

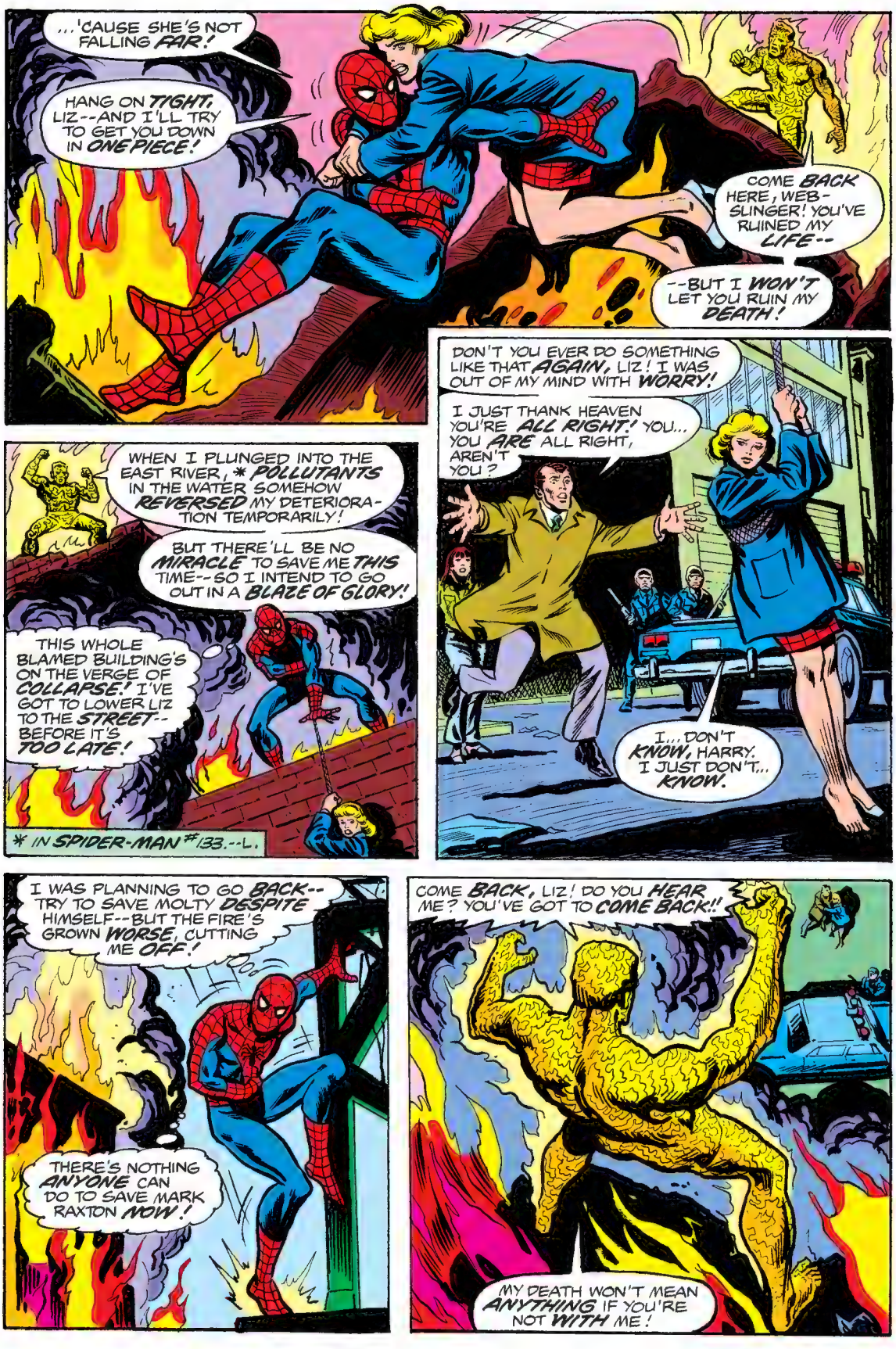
BUT LIZ HAS DISTRACTED MOLTY LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO SPIN SOME FIRE-PROOF WEB-GLOVES...
THWIP!


...SO I CAN PLAY JUNIOR-GRADE MUHAMMAD ALI!
SPIDER-MAN--YOU CAN'T!
POW!
FORGIVE ME, LIZ--BUT I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY CHOICE!
HEY--!
JUST LET ME GET MY HANDS ON YOU, WEB-HEAD...
...AND YOU'LL REGRET ALL THE TROUBLE YOU'VE CAUSED ME!
I HAVEN'T CAUSED ANYTHING, RAXTON--THAT YOU DIDN'T START YOURSELF!
BROK!
UUNNHH! I KEEP FORGETTING ABOUT MY BLASTED ARM--!
AND WORSE YET, MY PUNCH HAS SENT MOLTY HURTLING BACK TOWARDS THOSE TANKS OF LIQUID OXYGEN!
KRASH
IF HE RUPTURES ONE OF THOSE THINGS, IT'S LIABLE TO...
LOX
LOX
SKRAKT!
...EXPLODE.
KWA-VOOM!


I DON'T BELIEVE IT! I'M STILL ALIVE-- IF JUST BARELY!
BUT MY INJURED ARM DIDN'T FARE NEARLY AS WELL! IT'S BECOME SO MUCH DEAD WEIGHT! TRYING TO MOVE IT AT ALL IS AS PAINFUL AS...
BLAZES! POOR LIZ-- SHE MUST'VE BEEN STANDING TOO CLOSE TO THE EXPLOSION!
SHE...SHE'S NOT MOVING!
THANK HEAVENS! SHE'S STILL BREATHING...AND SHE SEEMS TO BE COMING AROUND!
LIZ? LIZ, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I...I THINK SO.
BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE AS LUCKY, WALL-CRAWLER!
MAYBE THE EXPLOSION DIDN'T FINISH YOU...
...BUT THE MOLTEN MAN WILL!!
Y'KNOW, FELLA-- YOU'RE REALLY BECOMING ANNOYING!
MANAGED TO PULL OFF MY WEB-GLOVE--AND TUCK MY INJURED ARM INTO MY BELT...
WHOK!
...BUT THE PAIN IS STILL MAKING ME DIZZY!


GOTTA HOLD MYSELF TOGETHER... LONG ENOUGH TO GET LIZ TO SAFETY!
'CAUSE AFTER THE BEATING THIS PLACE HAS TAKEN, I WOULDN'T BLAME IT IF IT STARTED TO...
OBOY.
SPIDER-MAN-- HELP ME!
SHRAK!
HANG ON, LIZ! I'LL...
YOU'LL DO NOTHING, WEB-SLINGER--
--EXCEPT DIE!!
UUNNFF!!
NO CHANCE, MOLTY! YOU MAY HAVE SOME OVER-SIZED DEATH WISH--
--BUT I INTEND TO GET OUT OF HERE INTACT--
WAK!
UNNGHH!!
--AND I INTEND TO TAKE YOUR STEP-SISTER WITH ME!
THEN YOU'D BETTER MOVE FAST, SPIDEY-- BECAUSE TIME IS RUNNING OUT!
KKRUMPP!!
LORD--NO! THE WHOLE SIDE OF THE BUILDING IS FALLING AWAY!
DON'T MOVE, LIZ! I'M COMING TO SAVE...
DON'T YOU TOUCH HER!
MY ARM--! THE PAIN--! I'M... BLACKING OUT!!


DON'T WORRY, LIZ...
...I WILL RESCUE YOU!
HAVE TO STAY CONSCIOUS... CAN'T GIVE UP...
IF THE MOLTEN MAN WINS NOW, WE ALL LOSE!
I DON'T GET IT!
WHAT'S SPIDEY DOING UP THERE?
TRYING TO SAVE MY LIZ FROM HER INSANE STEP-BROTHER!
AND IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S LOSING!
PLEASE, MARK-- KEEP AWAY!
YOUR MOLTEN TOUCH CAN KILL ME!
NO, LIZ--DON'T YOU TURN AWAY FROM ME TOO!
YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I HAVE LEFT IN THIS WORLD--
--AND I DON'T WANT TO DIE ALONE!!
NO! YOU'RE MAD! STAY AWAY FROM ME! STAY...
NO! I...I'M LOSING MY BALANCE!!
LIZ?!?
SHE'S FALLING-- AND IT'S MY FAULT!!
EH?
?
WELL, DON'T WORRY YOUR LITTLE MOLTEN HEAD ABOUT IT, RAXTON...


...'CAUSE SHE'S NOT FALLING FAR!
HANG ON TIGHT, LIZ--AND I'LL TRY TO GET YOU DOWN IN ONE PIECE!
COME BACK HERE, WEB-SLINGER! YOU'VE RUINED MY LIFE--
--BUT I WON'T LET YOU RUIN MY DEATH!
DON'T YOU EVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT AGAIN, LIZ! I WAS OUT OF MY MIND WITH WORRY!
I JUST THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! YOU... YOU ARE ALL RIGHT, AREN'T YOU?
I... DON'T KNOW, HARRY. I JUST DON'T... KNOW.
WHEN I PLUNGED INTO THE EAST RIVER, * POLLUTANTS IN THE WATER SOMEHOW REVERSED MY DETERIORATION TEMPORARILY!
BUT THERE'LL BE NO MIRACLE TO SAVE ME THIS TIME--SO I INTEND TO GO OUT IN A BLAZE OF GLORY!
THIS WHOLE BLAMED BUILDING'S ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE! I'VE GOT TO LOWER LIZ TO THE STREET--BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
* IN SPIDER-MAN #133.--L.
I WAS PLANNING TO GO BACK--TRY TO SAVE MOLTY DESPITE HIMSELF--BUT THE FIRE'S GROWN WORSE, CUTTING ME OFF!
THERE'S NOTHING ANYONE CAN DO TO SAVE MARK RAXTON NOW!
COME BACK, LIZ! DO YOU HEAR ME? YOU'VE GOT TO COME BACK!!
MY DEATH WON'T MEAN ANYTHING IF YOU'RE NOT WITH ME!

I'M SORRY FOR FORCING YOU TO STEAL FROM YOUR HOSPITAL, BUT ALL MY LIFE, I'VE BEEN AN OUTSIDER-- WITH NO ONE TO TURN TO--NO ONE TO RELY ON!
PLEASE DON'T LET ME DIE ALONE AS WELL, LIZ-- I BEG YOU!!
DON'T LET ME DIE A...
WHOOM!
OH... MY... GOD.
IT'S OKAY, DARLING, IT'S FINISHED NOW... AT LAST.
MARK RAXTON IS... GONE.
NO... NO!!
I'M THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM, HARRY... JUST AS I SEEM TO DESTROY EVERYTHING I CARE FOR...
EVERYTHING!!
LIZ?
WAIT, LIZ-- COME BACK!
PLEASE, DARLING-- COME BACK TO ME!
DON'T JUST LEAVE ME STANDING HERE...
...ALONE.

NEXT ISSUE:

THE HITMAN'S BACK IN TOWN!

AND J. JONAH JAMESON IS NUMBER ONE ON HIS HIT PARADE! BE HERE, OKAY?

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
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35¢
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02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
HE'S BACK!! THE PULSE-POUNDING PUNISHER!
IF EITHER OF YOU TAKES ONE MORE STEP-- J. JONAH JAMESON IS FINISHED!
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
THE HITMAN'S BACK IN TOWN!
AND NEW YORK MAY NEVER BE THE SAME!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

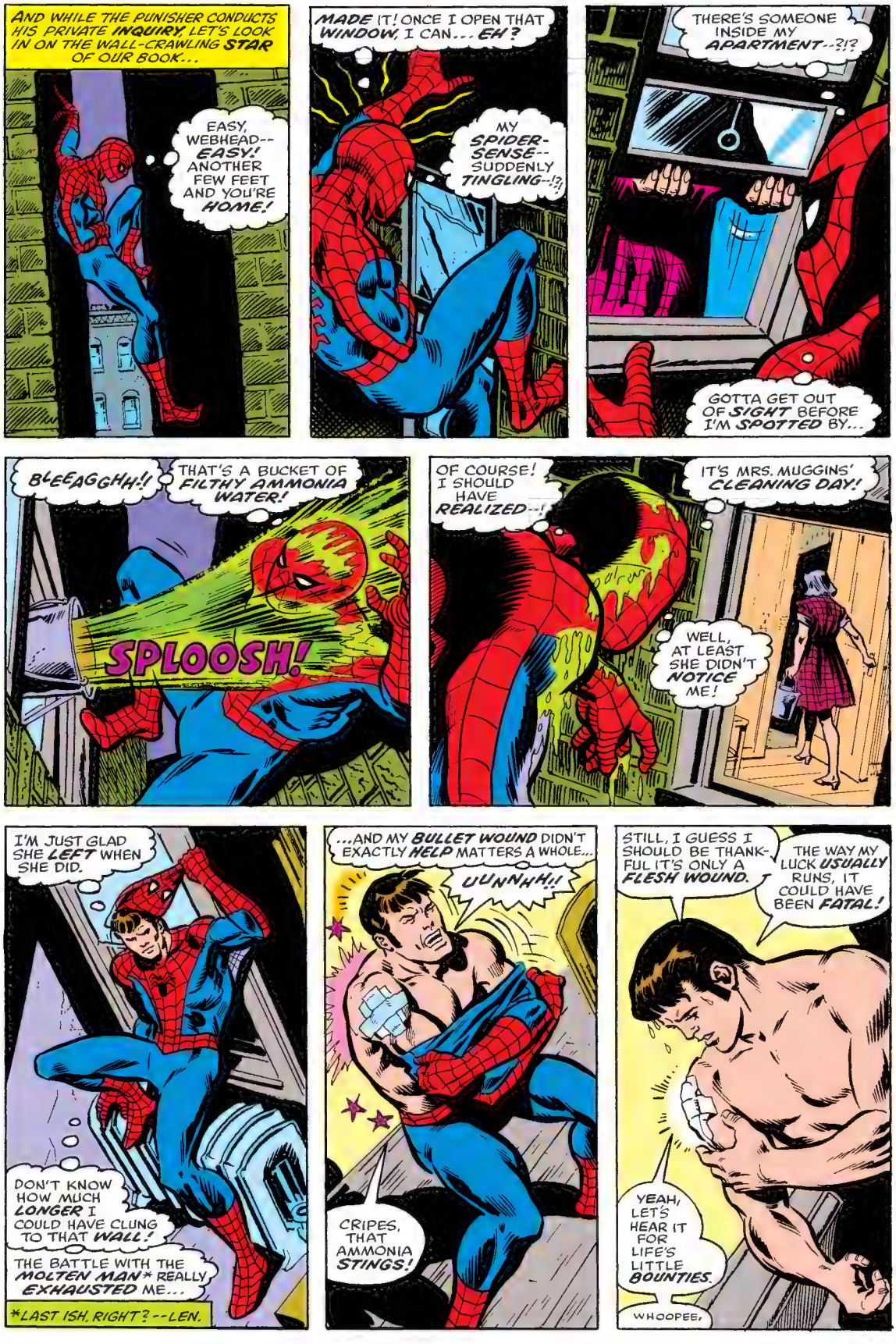
LEN WEIN WRITER / EDITOR ✶ ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR ✶ MOONEY & DEZUNIGA EMBELLISHERS ✶ GLYNIS WEIN COLORIST ✶ JOE ROSEN LETTERER

THE HITMAN'S BACK IN TOWN!

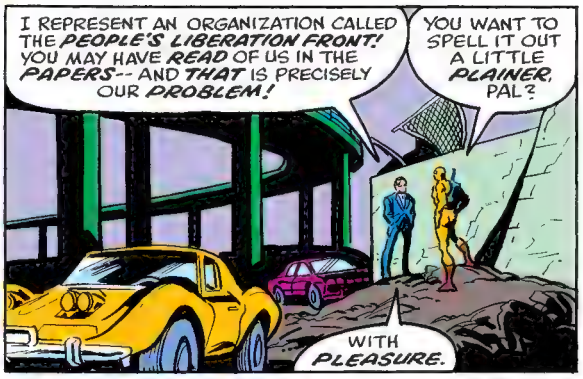
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 414:
THE ARCHAIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE 34TH STREET ARMORY STANDS OUT AGAINST THE STAID BUILDINGS THAT SURROUND IT, LIKE A LIVID SCAR--
--A STORYBOOK CASTLE IN A WORLD WHICH HAS LONG SINCE CEASED BELIEVING IN FAIRY TALES, BUT HAS COME TO KNOW NIGHTMARES WELL!
HEY-- ABOVE US! IT'S-- THE PUNISHER!!
THE 34TH STREET ARMORY WAS A CASTLE ALL RIGHT-- A CASTLE UNDER SIEGE!

I HADN'T REALLY COME TO NEW YORK LOOKING FOR THESE STOCKING-MASKED TERRORISTS-- BUT THE TWISTING TRAIL I FOLLOWED HAD LED ME RIGHT TO THEM...
BHUD UD AH!
KILL HIM-- NOW!!
IF THERE'S ANY KILLING TO BE DONE HERE, SCUM-- I'LL DECIDE IT!
...AND I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO PLAY MY CARDS AS THEY WERE DEALT!
NO, I... UUNNHH!!
BHUD UD UD AH!
AARRGGHH!!
RATATAT!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU INTENDED DOING WITH THAT WEAPONRY YOU'RE STEALING, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO...
EH?
ALL WE'RE GOING TO DO, MISTER, IS FINISH YOU!!
BETTER MEN THAN YOU HAVE TRIED THAT, PUNK --
--AND THEIR GRAVES ARE SCATTERED ALL ACROSS THIS COUNTRY!
UUNNCF!!
WHOK!
BROK!
BUT WE OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT ARE WILLING TO DIE FOR OUR CAUSE!
THEN I'LL GIVE YOU THE CHANCE RIGHT...
KLAK!
BLAST! I'M EMPTY!

BUT I'M LOADED, PIG--AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!!
LESS THAN A SECOND BEFORE THAT BAZOOKA IS FIRED! HAVE TO MAKE THIS COUNT!
AND I DID!
TH-THAT GRAPPLING HOOK--IT THREW OFF MY AIM--!?
BWOOM!
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 414--CONTINUED: THE TERRORISTS WILD SHOT LITERALLY BROUGHT DOWN THE HOUSE!
THE CATWALK OVER THEIR HEADS COLLAPSED IN FLAMING RUINS...
...AND WHEN THE SMOKE FINALLY CLEARED, I WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT STANDING!
THIS ONE'S STILL BREATHING! BETTER FIND OUT WHO HE IS!
HE, IT TURNED OUT, WAS A--SHE!
WH-WHERE...? WH-WHO...?
YOU?! ANIMAL, I'LL CUT OUT YOUR HEART!
YOU'LL CUT OUT THE FOOLISHNESS, SISTER--AND TALK!
I WANT TO KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT!
PIG! I WON'T TELL YOU ANY...
OWWWW!
OH, YOU WILL, LITTLE ONE!
YOU WILL.
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 414--CONCLUDED!

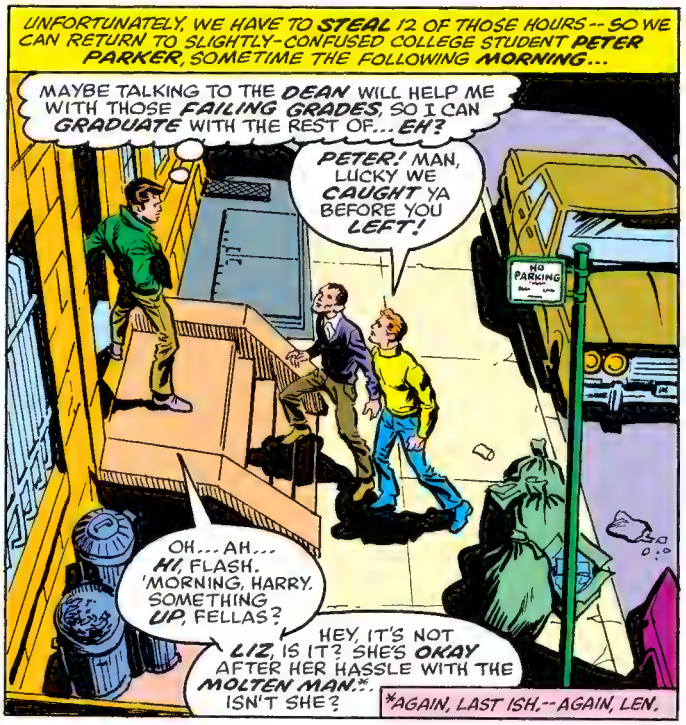

AND WHILE THE PUNISHER CONDUCTS HIS PRIVATE INQUIRY, LET'S LOOK IN ON THE WALL-CRAWLING STAR OF OUR BOOK...
EASY, WEBHEAD-- EASY! ANOTHER FEW FEET AND YOU'RE HOME!
MADE IT! ONCE I OPEN THAT WINDOW, I CAN... EH?
MY SPIDER-SENSE-- SUDDENLY TINGLING--!?
THERE'S SOMEONE INSIDE MY APARTMENT--?!?
GOTTA GET OUT OF SIGHT BEFORE I'M SPOTTED BY...
BLEEAGGHH!
THAT'S A BUCKET OF FILTHY AMMONIA WATER!
SPLOOSH!
OF COURSE! I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED--!
IT'S MRS. MUGGINS' CLEANING DAY!
WELL, AT LEAST SHE DIDN'T NOTICE ME!
I'M JUST GLAD SHE LEFT WHEN SHE DID.
DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I COULD HAVE CLUNG TO THAT WALL!
THE BATTLE WITH THE MOLTEN MAN* REALLY EXHAUSTED ME...
*LAST ISH, RIGHT? --LEN.
...AND MY BULLET WOUND DIDN'T EXACTLY HELP MATTERS A WHOLE...
UUNNHH!!
CRIPES, THAT AMMONIA STINGS!
STILL, I GUESS I SHOULD BE THANKFUL IT'S ONLY A FLESH WOUND.
THE WAY MY LUCK USUALLY RUNS, IT COULD HAVE BEEN FATAL!
YEAH, LET'S HEAR IT FOR LIFE'S LITTLE BOUNTIES.
WHOOPEE.

BUT EVEN AS THE WEARY WEB-SLINGER STAGGERS INTO THE SHOWER, THEN TUMBLES INTO BED, WE'D BEST TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A SHADOW-STREWN VACANT LOT SOMEWHERE IN BROOKLYN--
--WHERE A MOST EVENTFUL MEETING IS ALREADY UNDER WAY...
YOU'RE QUITE PUNCTUAL, MY FRIEND. I LIKE THAT IN A MAN.
WHEN YOU HIRE THE HITMAN, PAL-- YOU HIRE THE BEST!
NOW JUST WHY EXACTLY DID YOU CONTACT ME IN THE FIRST PLACE?


I REPRESENT AN ORGANIZATION CALLED THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT! YOU MAY HAVE READ OF US IN THE PAPERS-- AND THAT IS PRECISELY OUR PROBLEM!
YOU WANT TO SPELL IT OUT A LITTLE PLAINER, PAL?
WITH PLEASURE.

FOR THE PAST FEW WEEKS, A CERTAIN NEWSPAPERMAN HAS BEEN WRITING EDITORIALS WE FEEL ARE DAMAGING TO OUR IMAGE!
WE WANT THIS PERSON DEALT WITH--AS A LESSON TO ANYONE ELSE WHO MIGHT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE!
UNDER-STOOD. I'LL NEED THE TARGET'S NAME-- AND VARIOUS OTHER DETAILS.
NATURALLY, I HAVE A PHOTO OF THE INTENDED VICTIM RIGHT HERE!

HIS NAME IS J. JONAH JAMESON!
AND WE WANT HIM DELIVERED TO US WITHIN 48 HOURS!


UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE TO STEAL 12 OF THOSE HOURS-- SO WE CAN RETURN TO SLIGHTLY-CONFUSED COLLEGE STUDENT PETER PARKER, SOMETIME THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
MAYBE TALKING TO THE DEAN WILL HELP ME WITH THOSE FAILING GRADES, SO I CAN GRADUATE WITH THE REST OF... EH?
PETER! MAN, LUCKY WE CAUGHT YA BEFORE YOU LEFT!
NO PARKING
OH... AH... HI, FLASH. 'MORNING, HARRY. SOMETHING UP, FELLAS?
HEY, IT'S NOT LIZ, IS IT? SHE'S OKAY AFTER HER HASSLE WITH THE MOLTEN MAN.*... ISN'T SHE?
*AGAIN, LAST ISH,--AGAIN, LEN.

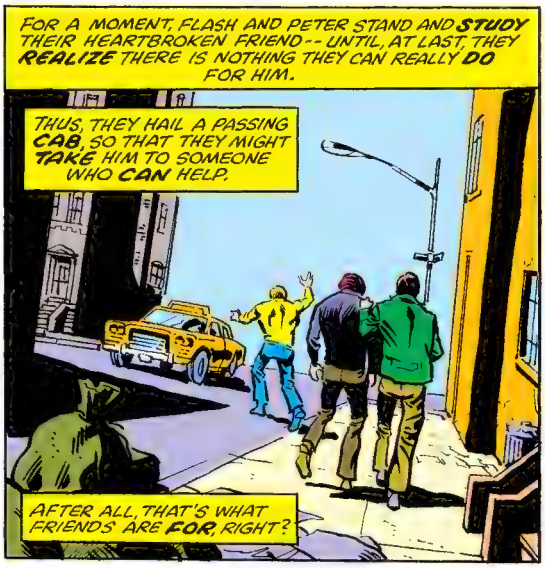
PETER, LIZ IS... GONE.
WHAT-?!?
SHE... SHE'S LEFT ME.
IT'S TRUE, PETE. WHEN I GOT TO HER APARTMENT TODAY, SHE'D MOVED OUT--AND HER LANDLADY SAID SHE LEFT NO FORWARDING ADDRESS!

LISTEN, IF LIZ DIDN'T CARE ENOUGH FOR HARRY TO STAND BY HIM AFTER EVERYTHING HE'S DONE FOR HER--
--MAYBE HARRY'S BETTER OFF WITHOUT HER!
WHAT DID YOU SAY, THOMPSON?

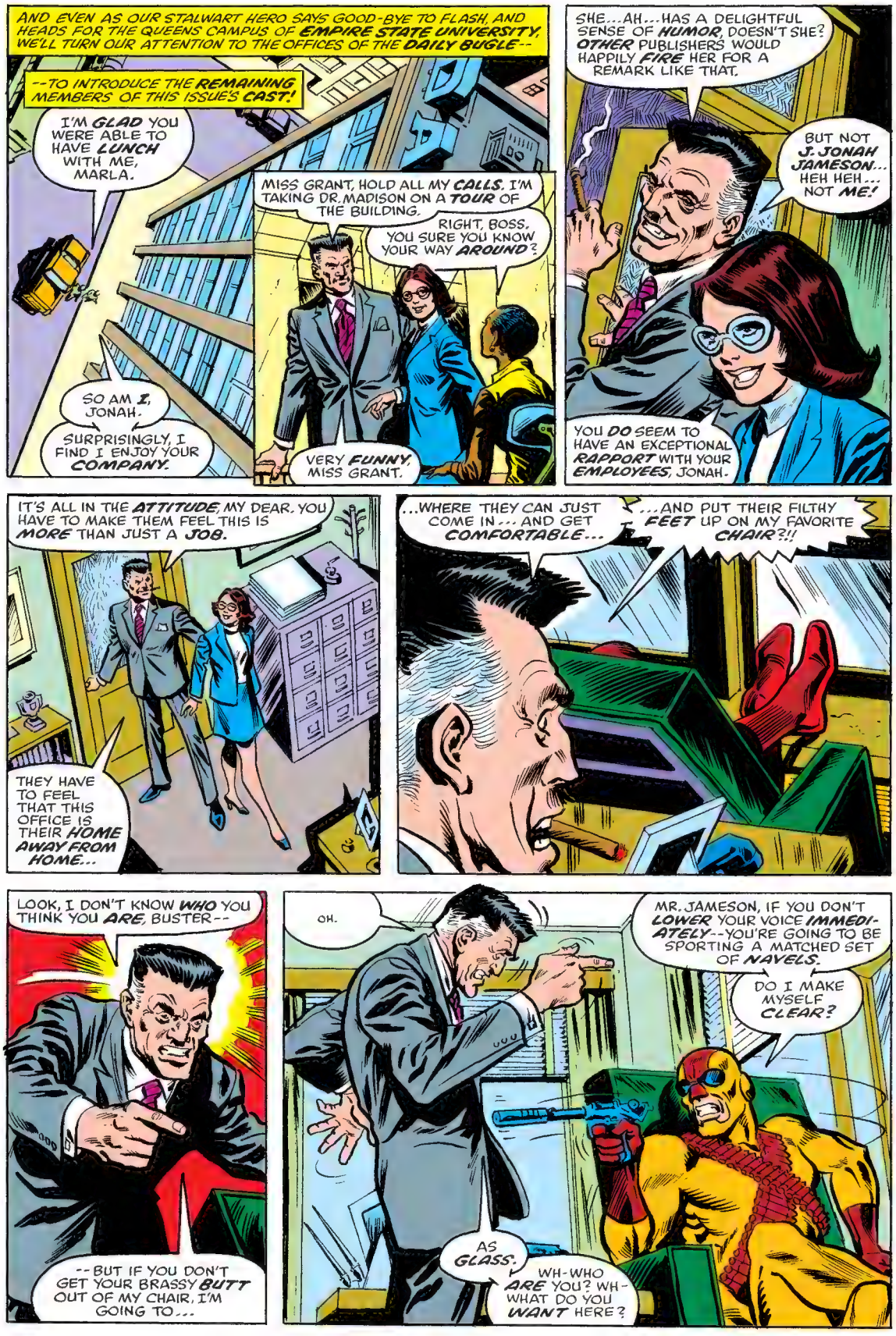
TAKE THAT BACK, YOU LOUSY--! TAKE IT BACK-- OR I'LL KILL YOU!!
HARRY?
NO, HARRY-- DON'T--!!

COME ON, HARRY-- CALM DOWN! EASE OFF BEFORE YOU HURT SOMEBOD... UUNNHH!
RATS! FORGOT ABOUT MY BLASTED ARM!
APOLOGIZE, THOMPSON, OR I'LL...
OKAY, HARRY-- OKAY! I'M SORRY, MAN! I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT!

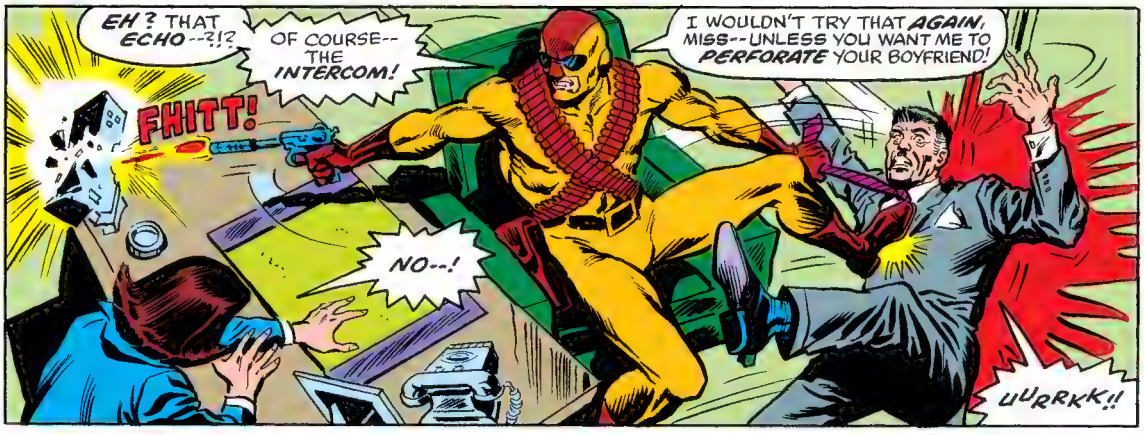
IN HIS OWN CLUMSY WAY, FLASH WAS JUST TRYING TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER, HARRY.
ALL EITHER OF US WANTS TO DO, PAL, IS HELP.
HELP, PETER? NO ONE CAN HELP ME NOW.
NO ONE EXCEPT... LIZ.
OH, WHY, LIZ?
WHY?


FOR A MOMENT, FLASH AND PETER STAND AND STUDY THEIR HEARTBROKEN FRIEND -- UNTIL, AT LAST, THEY REALIZE THERE IS NOTHING THEY CAN REALLY DO FOR HIM.
THUS, THEY HAIL A PASSING CAB, SO THAT THEY MIGHT TAKE HIM TO SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP.
AFTER ALL, THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR, RIGHT?

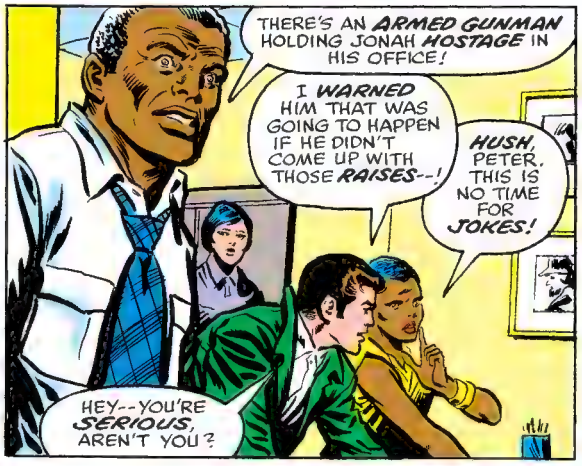
AND SHORTLY, AT A PLUSH CLINIC ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER EAST SIDE...
I'VE GIVEN HARRY A SEDATIVE. HE SHOULD SLEEP FOR A WHILE NOW.
MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
ARE YOU CERTAIN THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS?
IF I'M GOING TO HELP HARRY, I HAVE TO KNOW EVERYTHING.
I THINK YOU'VE GOT IT ALL, DR. HAMILTON. LIZ ALLEN'S STEPBROTHER WAS THE MOLTEN MAN. HIS DEATH YESTERDAY AFFECTED HER TERRIBLY...
...AND YOU CAN SEE HOW HER RUNNING AWAY HAS AFFECTED POOR HARRY!
YES. UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN.
FRANKLY, I WAS AFRAID OF SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENING. HARRY OSBORN'S MENTAL STABILITY IS STILL VERY PRECARIOUS.
AN EXPERIENCE AS TRAUMATIC AS THIS CAN SET HIS THERAPY BACK MONTHS!
YOU JUST LEAVE YOUR FRIEND WITH ME, MR. PARKER--AND I'LL DO MY VERY BEST FOR HIM.
FROM EVERYTHING HARRY'S TOLD ME ABOUT YOU, DOC--I'M SURE YOU WILL.
IF--AH--HARRY NEEDS ANYTHING, LET US KNOW, OKAY?
THANKS. I'LL DO THAT.
SO THAT'S PETER PARKER, EH?
NOT A BIT!
HE DOESN'T LOOK A BIT LIKE I IMAGINED HE WOULD.

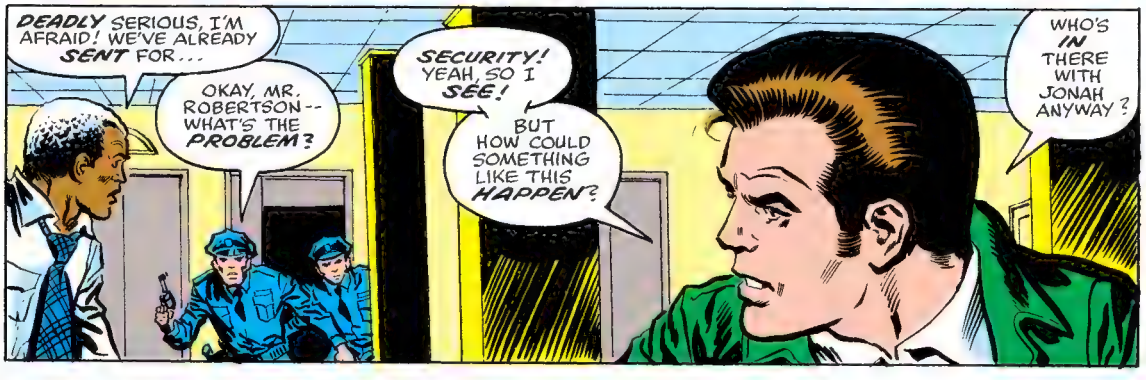

AND EVEN AS OUR STALWART HERO SAYS GOOD-BYE TO FLASH, AND HEADS FOR THE QUEENS CAMPUS OF EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY, WE'LL TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY BUGLE--
--TO INTRODUCE THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THIS ISSUE'S CAST!
I'M GLAD YOU WERE ABLE TO HAVE LUNCH WITH ME, MARLA.
SO AM I, JONAH.
SURPRISINGLY, I FIND I ENJOY YOUR COMPANY.
MISS GRANT, HOLD ALL MY CALLS. I'M TAKING DR. MADISON ON A TOUR OF THE BUILDING.
RIGHT, BOSS. YOU SURE YOU KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND?
VERY FUNNY, MISS GRANT.
SHE...AH...HAS A DELIGHTFUL SENSE OF HUMOR, DOESN'T SHE? OTHER PUBLISHERS WOULD HAPPILY FIRE HER FOR A REMARK LIKE THAT.
BUT NOT J. JONAH JAMESON... HEH HEH... NOT ME!
YOU DO SEEM TO HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL RAPPORT WITH YOUR EMPLOYEES, JONAH.
IT'S ALL IN THE ATTITUDE, MY DEAR. YOU HAVE TO MAKE THEM FEEL THIS IS MORE THAN JUST A JOB.
THEY HAVE TO FEEL THAT THIS OFFICE IS THEIR HOME AWAY FROM HOME...
...WHERE THEY CAN JUST COME IN... AND GET COMFORTABLE...
...AND PUT THEIR FILTHY FEET UP ON MY FAVORITE CHAIR?!!
LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU THINK YOU ARE, BUSTER--
--BUT IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR BRASSY BUTT OUT OF MY CHAIR, I'M GOING TO...
OH.
MR. JAMESON, IF YOU DON'T LOWER YOUR VOICE IMMEDIATELY--YOU'RE GOING TO BE SPORTING A MATCHED SET OF NAVELS.
DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?
AS GLASS.
WH-WHO ARE YOU? WH-WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?

THEY CALL ME THE HITMAN, MR. JAMESON--NOT THAT IT MAKES ANY DIFFERENCE.
AND WHAT I WANT HERE IS--YOU!
YOU, MR. JAMESON, ARE ABOUT TO BE KIDNAPPED!
KIDNAPPED? ME?
B-BUT THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE! WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT ME? I MEAN, I DON'T EVEN LIKE ME ALL THAT MUCH!
WOULDN'T YOU REALLY RATHER HAVE SOMEBODY ELSE?
H-HOW ABOUT BUSHKIN OVER AT THE GLOBE? HE'D MAKE A PERFECT KIDNAPPING VICTIM!
I DOUBT ANYONE WOULD EVER EVEN MISS HIM!
THAT'S IT, JONAH. KEEP THAT KILLER OCCUPIED--
--LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO OPEN THIS INTERCOM--
--SO WE CAN LET THE REST OF THE OFFICE IN ON THE HITMAN'S PLANS!
THERE! IT'S DONE!
I TELL YOU--YOU'RE MAKING A TERRIBLE MISTAKE!
YOU DON'T REALLY WANT TO KIDNAP ME, HITMAN! JUST THINK ABOUT IT!
HUH?
WHO IN HEAVEN'S NAME WOULD PAY THE RANSOM?
WHAT IN THE--?
YOU LEAVE HERE NOW--AND I'LL FORGET THIS EVER HAPPENED. I'LL EVEN THROW IN A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO THE BUGLE FOR GOOD MEASURE!
ANOTHER OFFER LIKE THAT ONE, MR. JAMESON--AND YOU MAY FORCE ME TO KILL YOU!
HEY, ROBBIE--I THINK YOU'D BETTER LISTEN TO THIS!
J. JONAH JAMESON PUBLISHER
I HEAR IT, GLORY--BUT I'M NOT SURE I BELIEVE IT!
IS JAMESON KIDDING?
SINCE WHEN DOES JONAH HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR?


EH? THAT ECHO--?!?
OF COURSE-- THE INTERCOM!
I WOULDN'T TRY THAT AGAIN, MISS--UNLESS YOU WANT ME TO PERFORATE YOUR BOYFRIEND!
FHITT!
NO--!
UURRKK!!

GLORY, YOU'D BETTER CALL SECURITY.
I DID. THEY'RE ALREADY ON THEIR WAY!
WELL, THE DEAN COULDN'T HELP ME, LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO TAKE MAKE-UP COURSES AFTER... HUH?
HEY-- WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

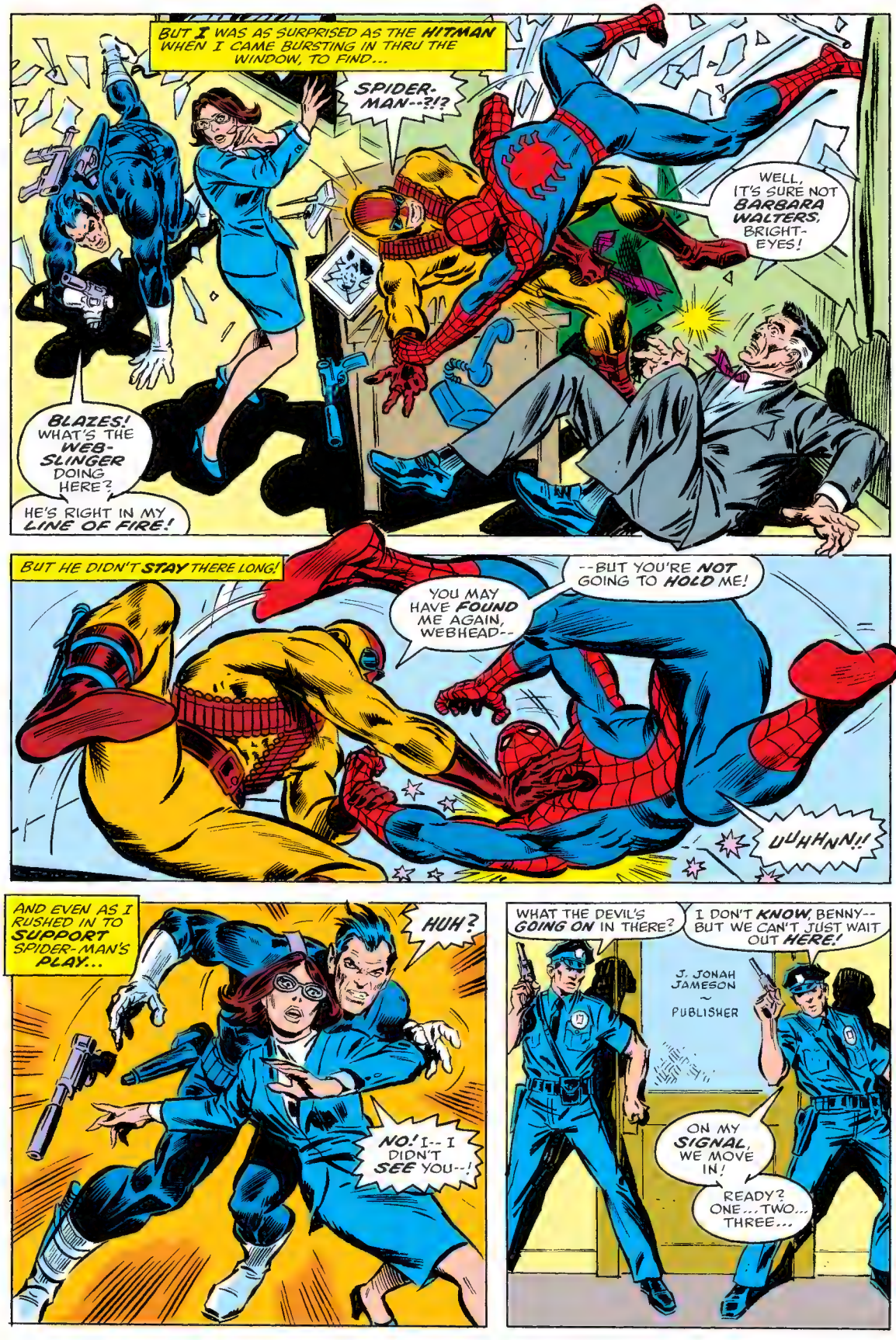

THERE'S AN ARMED GUNMAN HOLDING JONAH HOSTAGE IN HIS OFFICE!
I WARNED HIM THAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN IF HE DIDN'T COME UP WITH THOSE RAISES--!
HUSH, PETER. THIS IS NO TIME FOR JOKES!
HEY--YOU'RE SERIOUS, AREN'T YOU?


DEADLY SERIOUS, I'M AFRAID! WE'VE ALREADY SENT FOR...
OKAY, MR. ROBERTSON-- WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
SECURITY! YEAH, SO I SEE!
BUT HOW COULD SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPEN?
WHO'S IN THERE WITH JONAH ANYWAY?

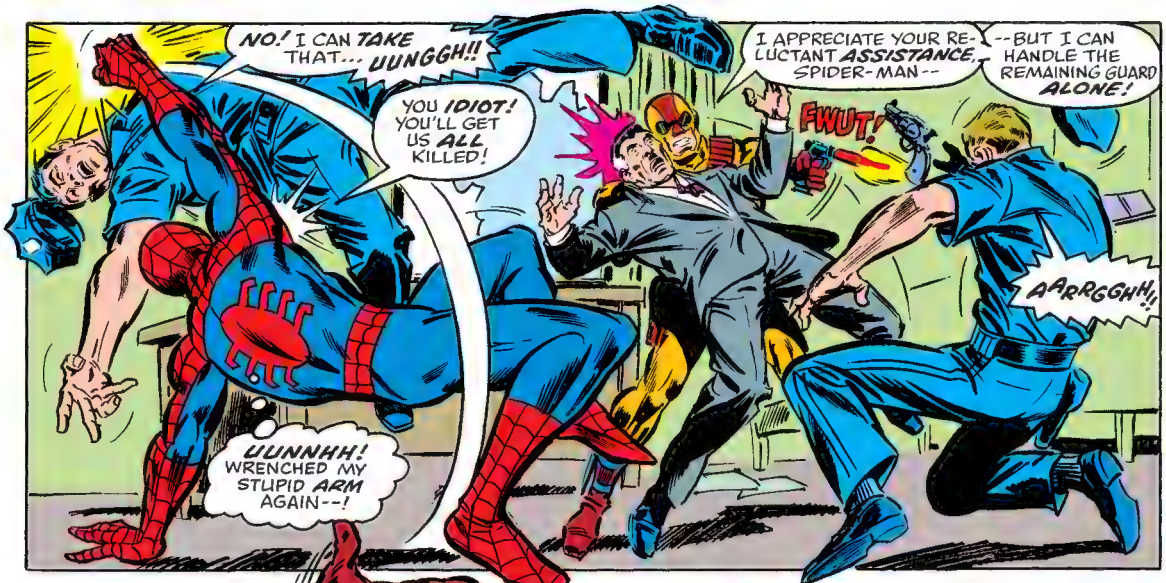
I DON'T KNOW, PETE-- BUT HE CALLS HIMSELF THE HITMAN!
UH--LOOK, GLORY, I'D ONLY BE IN THE WAY AROUND HERE.
CRIPES! NOT HIM!
I'LL SEE YOU LATER, OKAY?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO ME TO GET JONAH OUT OF THIS MESS--
--THOUGH I'LL PROBABLY HATE MYSELF FOR DOING IT IN THE MORNING!

I WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU'VE MADE THINGS VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME, MISS.
THIS WAS GOING TO BE A SIMPLE OPERATION-- UNTIL YOU DECIDED TO PLAY HEROINE!
IF ANYTHING TERMINAL HAPPENS TO JAMESON NOW, IT WILL BE YOUR FAULT!
P-P-P-PLEASE... CAN'T WE DISCUSS THIS?
THERE'S NO WAY TO GET TO JONAH THROUGH THE OFFICE--
--SO I'LL HAVE TO COME DOWN THE WALL!
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 415: SUDDENLY, IT HAD ALL GONE BAD!
THE WOMAN IN THE ARMORY HAD FINALLY TOLD ME THE PLF'S NEXT TARGET WAS NEWSMAN J. JONAH JAMESON--
--BUT SHE HADN'T KNOWN PRECISELY WHEN THE HIT WOULD OCCUR!
JONAH'S OFFICE IS AT THE CORNER OF THE BUILDING-- AND, NATURALLY, THE WINDOWS ARE SHUT!
I'LL HAVE TO MOVE FAST-- USE THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE-- IF I'M GOING TO HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE!
I STILL THINK I SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN BED!
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 415--CONTINUED: I HAD BEEN WATCHING JAMESON'S OFFICE, BUT SOMEHOW THE HITMAN HAD STILL GOTTEN IN PAST MY SURVEILLANCE--
--AND NOW THE ONLY THING LEFT FOR ME TO DO WAS MAKE CERTAIN HE DIDN'T GET OUT AGAIN!


BUT I WAS AS SURPRISED AS THE HITMAN WHEN I CAME BURSTING IN THRU THE WINDOW, TO FIND...
SPIDER-MAN--?!?
WELL, IT'S SURE NOT BARBARA WALTERS, BRIGHT-EYES!
BLAZES! WHAT'S THE WEB-SLINGER DOING HERE?
HE'S RIGHT IN MY LINE OF FIRE!
BUT HE DIDN'T STAY THERE LONG!
YOU MAY HAVE FOUND ME AGAIN, WEBHEAD--
--BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HOLD ME!
UUHHNN!!
AND EVEN AS I RUSHED IN TO SUPPORT SPIDER-MAN'S PLAY...
HUH?
NO! I-- I DIDN'T SEE YOU--!
WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON IN THERE?
I DON'T KNOW, BENNY-- BUT WE CAN'T JUST WAIT OUT HERE!
J. JONAH JAMESON ~ PUBLISHER
ON MY SIGNAL, WE MOVE IN!
READY? ONE... TWO... THREE...

...GO!!
OKAY, EVERYBODY-- FREEZE!!
HEY, IT'S SPIDER-MAN! SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU'D HAVE A HAND IN THIS!
WHOA-- EASY, FELLAS! THIS ISN'T WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I ACTUALLY CAME HERE TO RESCUE JONAH!
WELL, YOU'VE BLOWN YOUR CHANCE, WEBHEAD!
YOU ALLOWED THOSE UNIFORMED IDIOTS TO DISTRACT YOU!
POW!
IT WAS A MISTAKE YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE MADE--
--AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO SUFFER FOR IT!
HEY, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE...
UUNNFF!!
NOW'S MY CHANCE! IF I CAN JUST SNEAK OUT OF HERE WHILE THEY'RE ALL BUSY, I CAN CALL IN THE ARMY...THE MARINES...
I'LL BE RID OF THE LOUSY WEB-SLINGER-- AND THOSE OTHER TWO LOONIES-- PERMANENTLY!
GOING SOMEWHERE, MR. JAMESON?
WHO... ME?
OKAY, FELLA-- PUT UP YOUR HANDS!
I SUGGEST YOU PUT UP YOURS, FRIEND-- OR I'LL SNAP YOUR BOSS'S SCRAWNY NECK LIKE A TWIG!
IN HEAVEN'S NAME, MAN-- YOU HEARD HIM!
DO WHAT HE SAYS!


NO! I CAN TAKE THAT... UUNGGH!!
YOU IDIOT! YOU'LL GET US ALL KILLED!
I APPRECIATE YOUR RELUCTANT ASSISTANCE, SPIDER-MAN--
--BUT I CAN HANDLE THE REMAINING GUARD ALONE!
FWUT!
AARRGGHH!!
UUNHH! WRENCHED MY STUPID ARM AGAIN--!

AND NOW, BEFORE YOU TWO HEROES CAN GATHER UP YOUR COURAGE--
PROTECT YOURSELF, SPIDER-MAN!
WHAT IN--?!?
FWHUMP!
-- I BID YOU A FOND FAREWELL!
CRIPES! THIS STUFF IS-- TEAR-GAS!

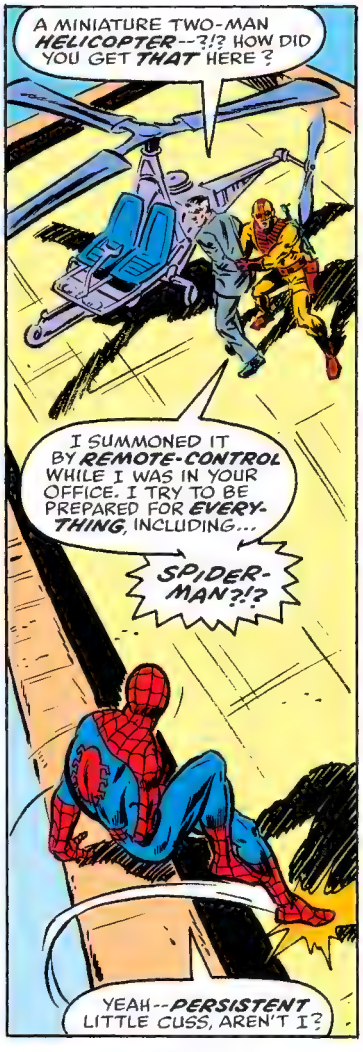
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 415--CONTINUED: MY EYES WERE ALREADY BEGINNING TO WATER AS I SLAPPED ON MY GAS-MASK!
THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO TO HELP SPIDER-MAN OR THE OTHERS...

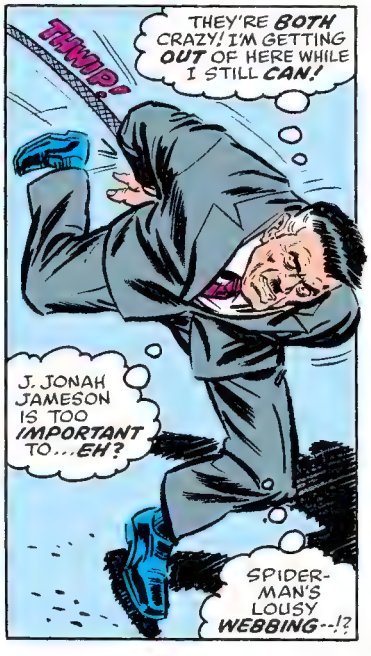
...BUT, APPARENTLY, THE WEB-SLINGER DIDN'T NEED MY HELP!
THIS MAKESHIFT WEB-MASK SHOULD KEEP ME BREATHING EASILY--
-- AND THE SPECIAL LENSES IN MY MASK WILL PROTECT MY EYES FROM THE FUMES!

NATURALLY, THE HITMAN AND HIS CAPTIVE WERE GONE WHEN THE GAS DISPERSED!
THE WOUNDED GUARD WILL LIVE-- AND THESE TWO WILL BE FINE WHEN THE EFFECTS OF THE GAS WEAR OFF.
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING AROUND HERE FOR?
THE HITMAN AND JONAH COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN VERY FAR!

THE PUNISHER TOOK THE STAIRCASE--LEAVING ME WITH THE OUTSIDE!
I'M JUST GLAD MY STUPID SHOULDER'S IMPROVING--OR I'D BE NO GOOD FOR ANYTHING RIGHT NOW!

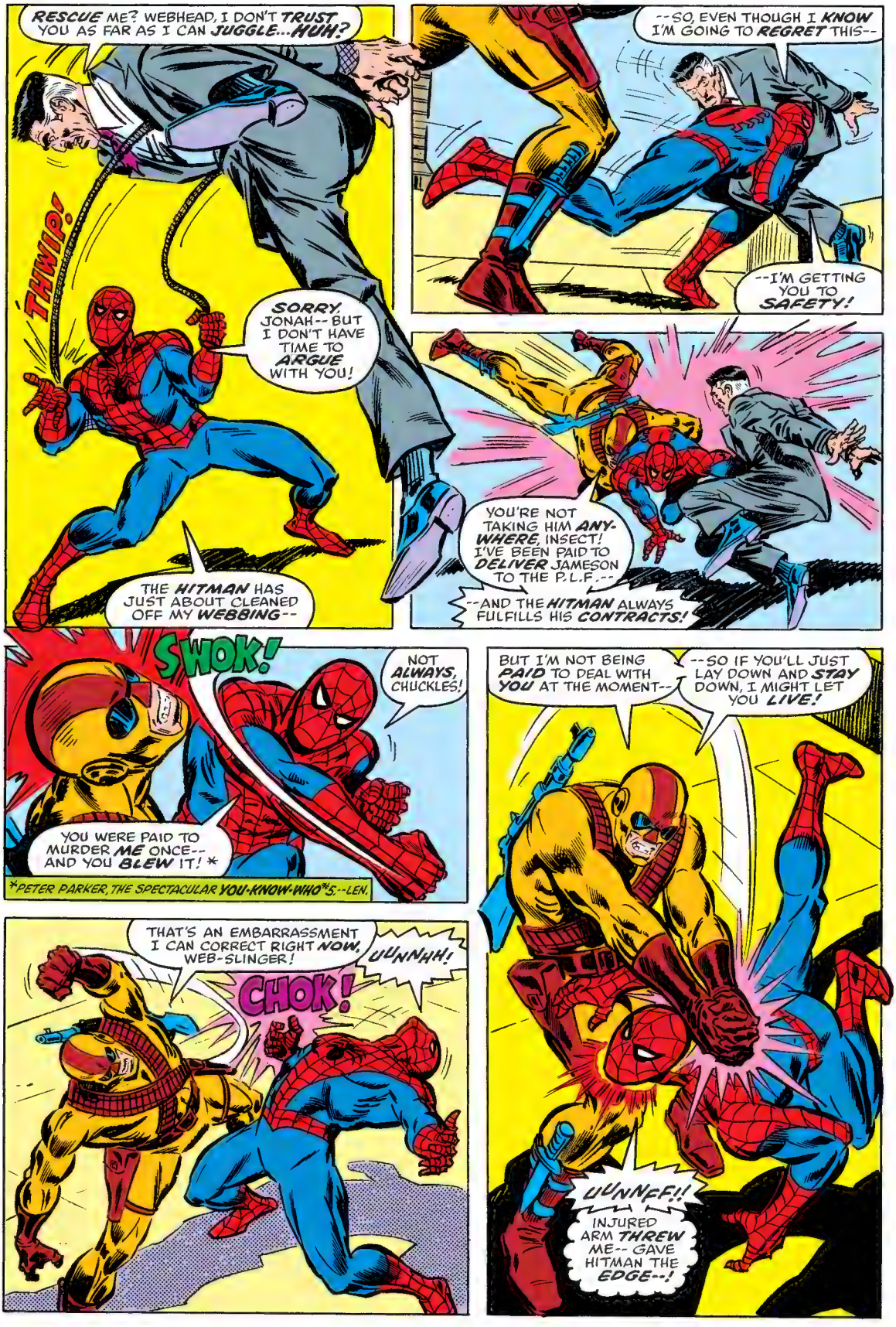
THWAK!
"--LIKE AFTER YOU CLEAN MY WEBBING OFF YOUR GOGGLES!"
BLAST--! I--I CAN'T SEE!
"THAT'S THE GENERAL IDEA, BRIGHT-EYES!"

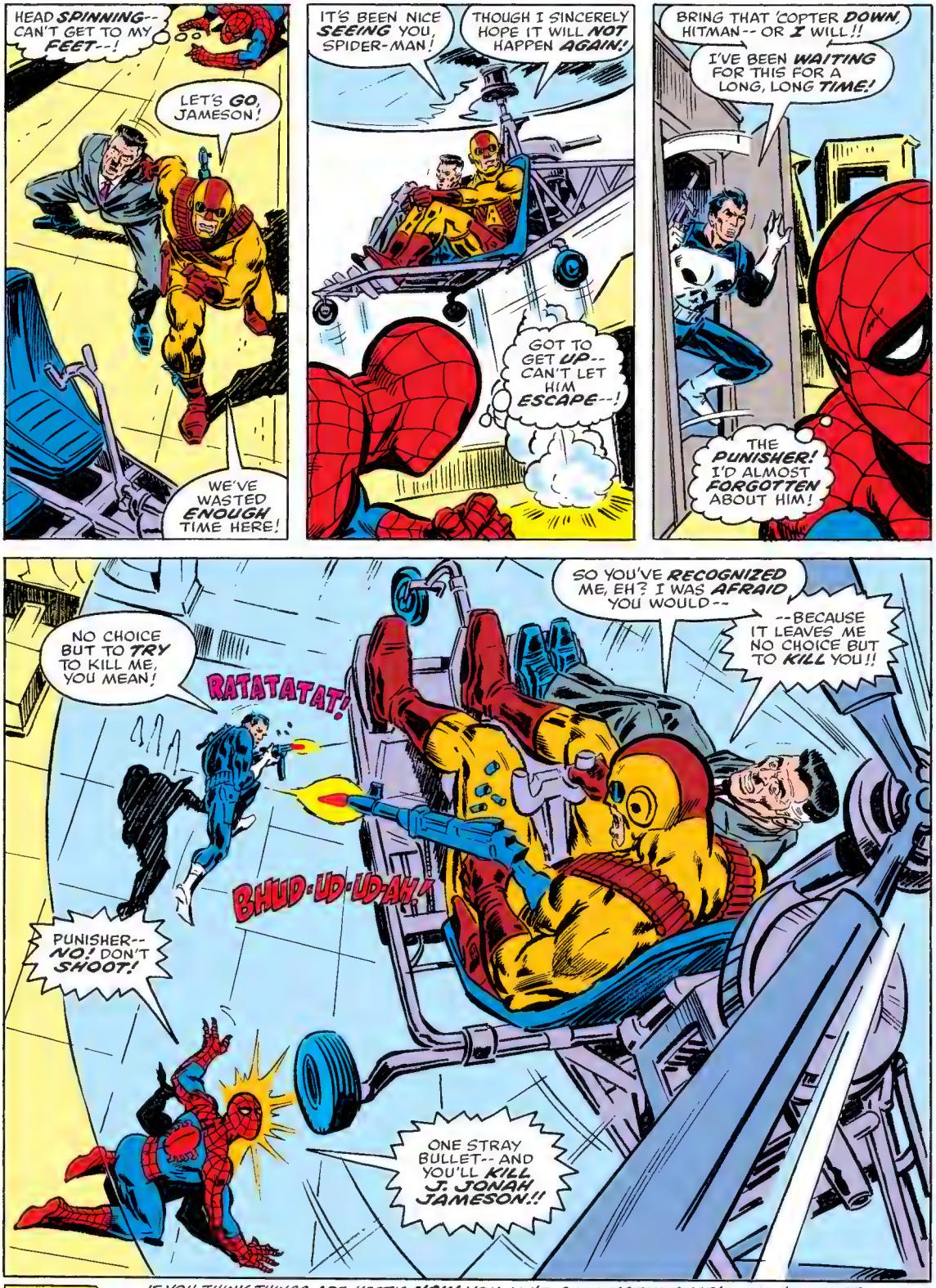

A MINIATURE TWO-MAN HELICOPTER--?!? HOW DID YOU GET THAT HERE?
I SUMMONED IT BY REMOTE-CONTROL WHILE I WAS IN YOUR OFFICE. I TRY TO BE PREPARED FOR EVERY-THING, INCLUDING...
SPIDER-MAN?!?
YEAH--PERSISTENT LITTLE CUSS, AREN'T I?


THWIP!
THEY'RE BOTH CRAZY! I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE WHILE I STILL CAN!
J. JONAH JAMESON IS TOO IMPORTANT TO...EH?
SPIDER-MAN'S LOUSY WEBBING--!?

TOO PERSISTENT--AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR IT WITH YOUR...
EH?
THOP!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST BILL ME LATER, CHUM--

LET GO OF ME, WALL-CRAWLER!
YOU'RE NOT LAYING YOUR FILTHY HANDS ON ME!
WHAT ARE YOU, JAMESON--NUTS?
I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOUR HARD-BOILED HIDE, REMEMBER?


RESCUE ME? WEBHEAD, I DON'T TRUST YOU AS FAR AS I CAN JUGGLE...HUH?
THWIP!
SORRY, JONAH-- BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO ARGUE WITH YOU!
THE HITMAN HAS JUST ABOUT CLEANED OFF MY WEBBING--
--SO, EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I'M GOING TO REGRET THIS--
--I'M GETTING YOU TO SAFETY!
YOU'RE NOT TAKING HIM ANYWHERE, INSECT! I'VE BEEN PAID TO DELIVER JAMESON TO THE P.L.F.--
--AND THE HITMAN ALWAYS FULFILLS HIS CONTRACTS!
SWOK!
NOT ALWAYS, CHUCKLES!
YOU WERE PAID TO MURDER ME ONCE-- AND YOU BLEW IT! *
*PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR YOU-KNOW-WHO*S--LEN.
BUT I'M NOT BEING PAID TO DEAL WITH YOU AT THE MOMENT--
--SO IF YOU'LL JUST LAY DOWN AND STAY DOWN, I MIGHT LET YOU LIVE!
THAT'S AN EMBARRASSMENT I CAN CORRECT RIGHT NOW, WEB-SLINGER!
UUNNHH!
CHOK!
UUNNFF!!
INJURED ARM THREW ME-- GAVE HITMAN THE EDGE--!


HEAD SPINNING-- CAN'T GET TO MY FEET--!
LET'S GO, JAMESON!
WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME HERE!
IT'S BEEN NICE SEEING YOU, SPIDER-MAN!
THOUGH I SINCERELY HOPE IT WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN!
GOT TO GET UP-- CAN'T LET HIM ESCAPE--!
BRING THAT 'COPTER DOWN, HITMAN-- OR I WILL!!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS FOR A LONG, LONG TIME!
THE PUNISHER! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT HIM!
SO YOU'VE RECOGNIZED ME, EH? I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULD--
--BECAUSE IT LEAVES ME NO CHOICE BUT TO KILL YOU!!
NO CHOICE BUT TO TRY TO KILL ME, YOU MEAN!
RATATATAT!
BHUD-UD-UD-AH!
PUNISHER-- NO! DON'T SHOOT!
ONE STRAY BULLET-- AND YOU'LL KILL J. JONAH JAMESON!!

NEXT ISSUE:

IF YOU THINK THINGS ARE HECTIC NOW, YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET! IF YOU'RE WISE, YOU'LL BE HERE FOR...

"BIG APPLE BATTLEGROUND!"

WE WILL!

SPIDER-MAN
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
HANG ON TO JAMESON, WEB-SLINGER! THE PUNISHER WILL SAVE YOU BOTH!
BUT WHO'S GOING TO SAVE YOU, HERO-- FROM THE VENGEANCE OF THE HITMAN!
AND WITH MY INJURED ARM, I CAN'T SAVE ANY OF US!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

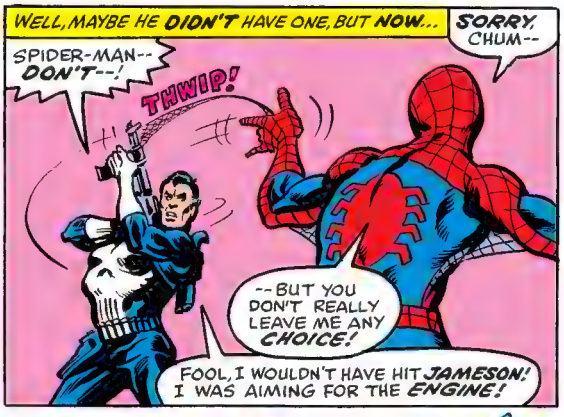
Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**™

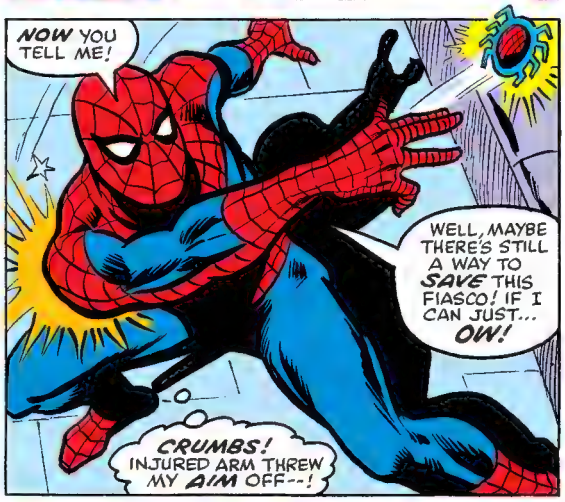
LEN WEIN: WRITER/EDITOR ✱ ROSS ANDRU: ARTIST ✱ JIM MOONEY: INKER ✱ GLYNIS WEIN: COLORIST ✱ JOE ROSEN: LETTERER

BIG APPLE BATTLEGROUND!

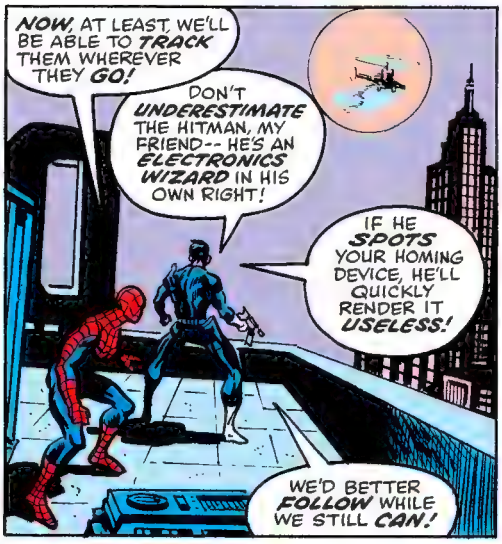
OKAY, IN 25 WORDS OR LESS, THE SITUATION IS THIS: THE HITMAN HAS KIDNAPPED J. JONAH JAMESON FROM HIS OFFICE AT THE DAILY BUGLE, AND SPIDEY AND THE PUNISHER ARE ATTEMPTING TO PREVENT THEIR GETAWAY!
BHUD-UD-UD-UD-AH!
THERE! NOW WHO SAYS THIS ISN'T THE MARVEL AGE OF COMPACT RECAPS?
PUNISHER--NO! DON'T SHOOT! ONE STRAY BULLET--AND YOU'LL KILL J. JONAH JAMESON!!
LEAVE ME ALONE, WEB-SLINGER! I'M BRINGING THAT 'COPTER DOWN--
--ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!!

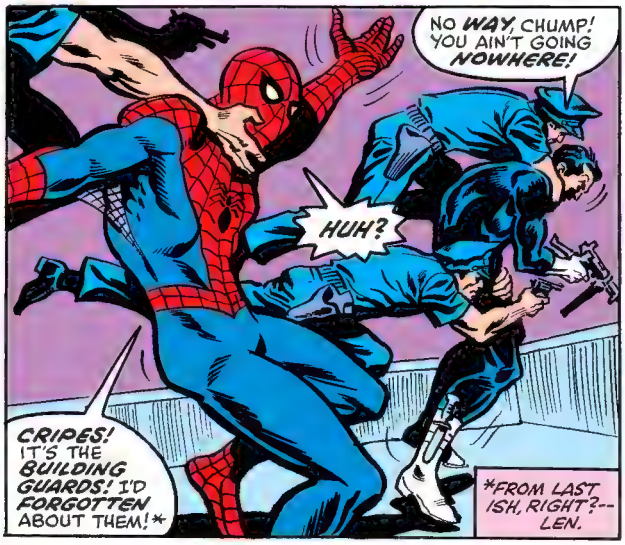
IRONIC, ISN'T IT? I'M ONLY BEING PAID TO ABDUCT YOU, JAMESON--
--BUT YOUR OWN FRIENDS MAY KILL YOU!
THAT BLASTED WALL-CRAWLER AND HIS TRIGGER-HAPPY SIDEKICK ARE NO FRIENDS OF MINE!
BHUD-UD-AH!
GIVE IT UP, HITMAN! YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE!

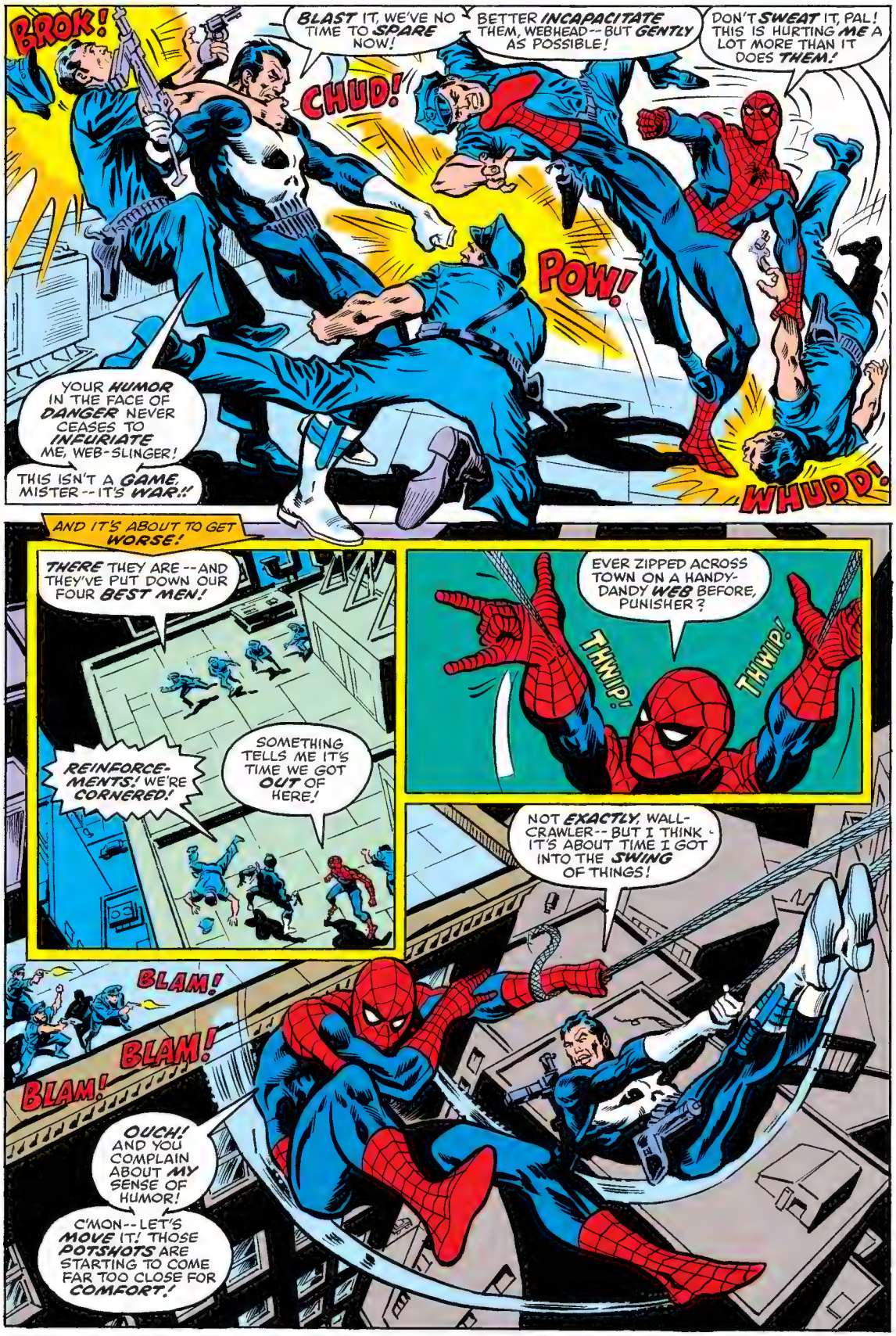

WELL, MAYBE HE DIDN'T HAVE ONE, BUT NOW...
SORRY, CHUM--
SPIDER-MAN-- DON'T--!
THWIP!
--BUT YOU DON'T REALLY LEAVE ME ANY CHOICE!
FOOL, I WOULDN'T HAVE HIT JAMESON! I WAS AIMING FOR THE ENGINE!

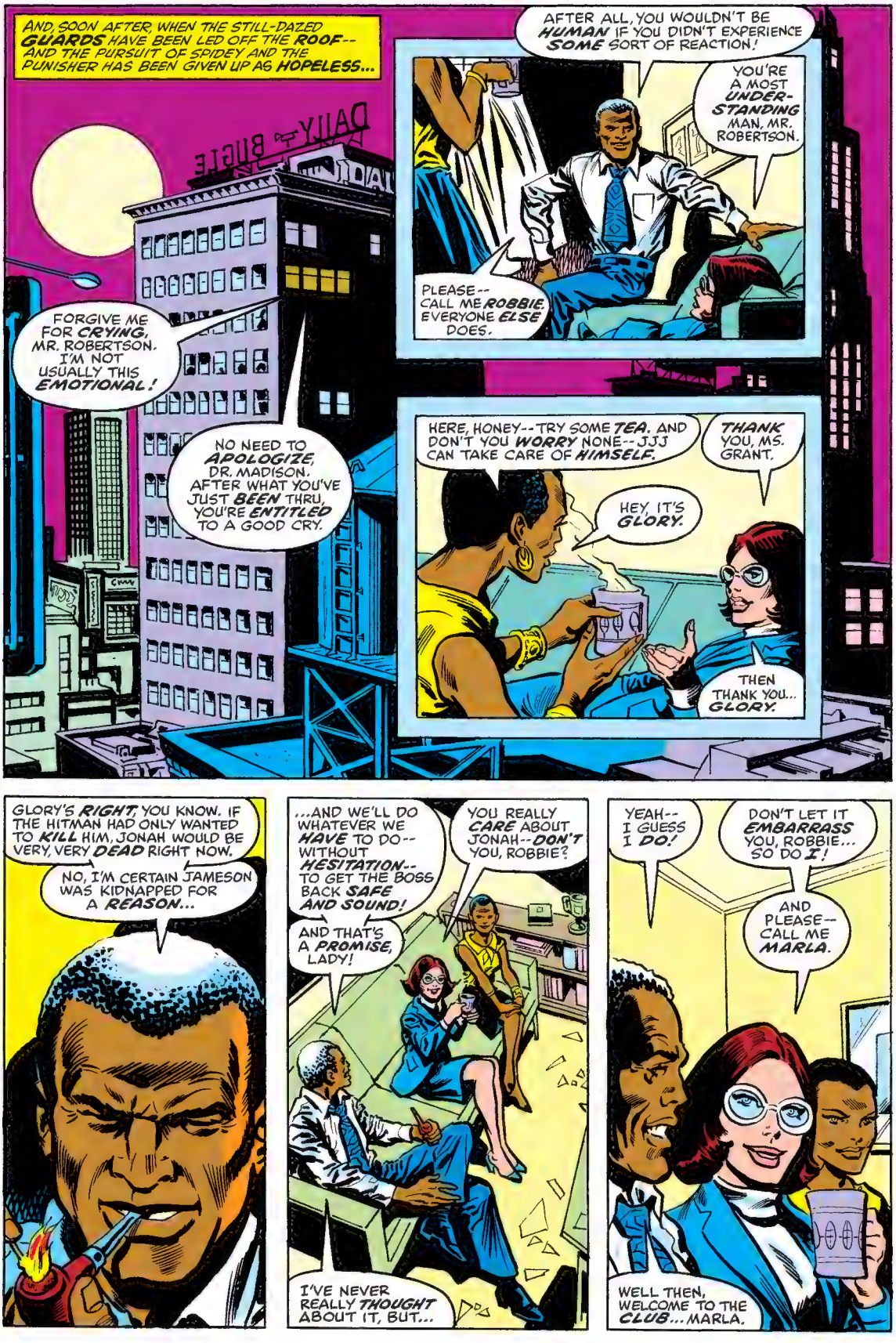

NOW YOU TELL ME!
WELL, MAYBE THERE'S STILL A WAY TO SAVE THIS FIASCO! IF I CAN JUST... OW!
CRUMBS! INJURED ARM THREW MY AIM OFF--!

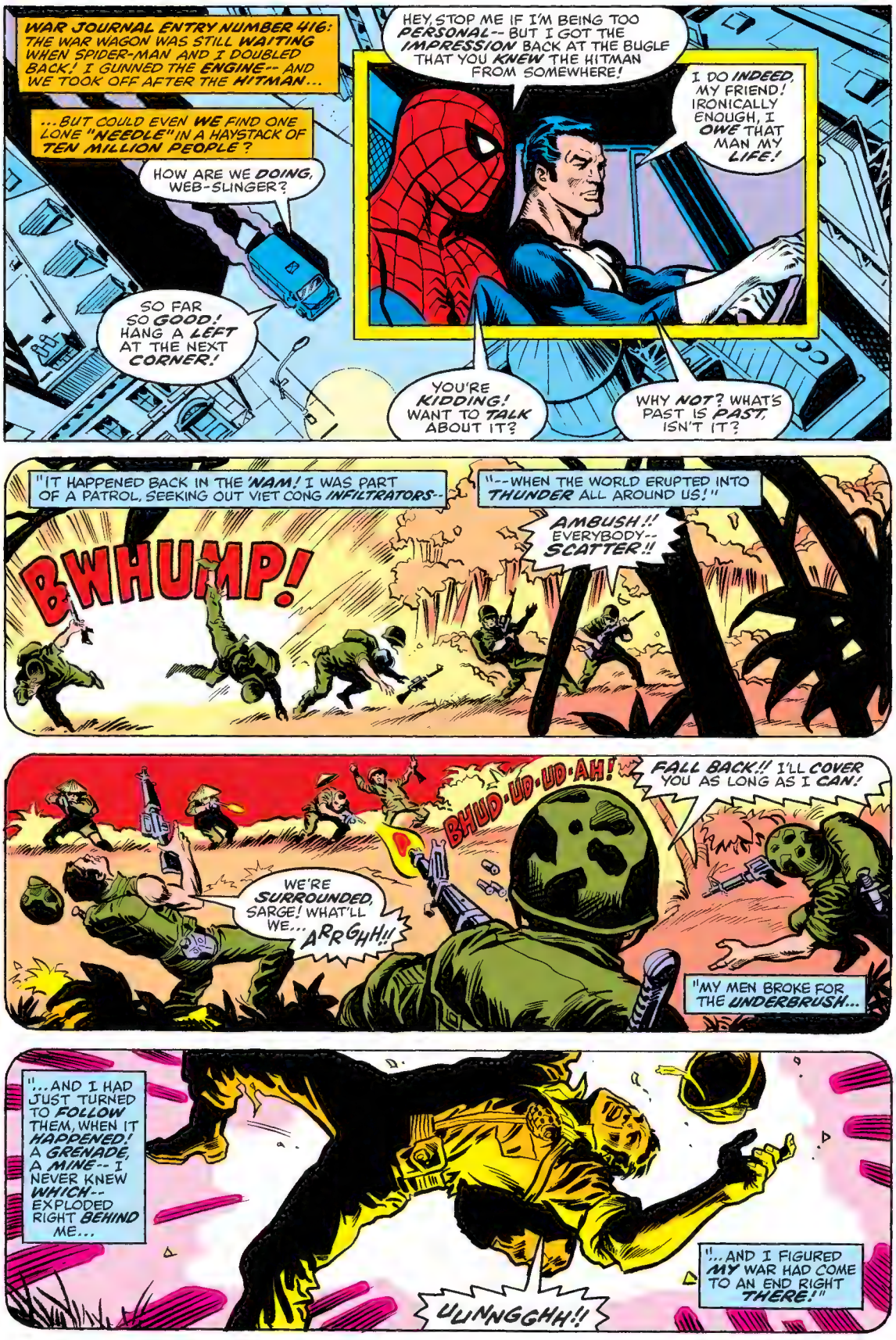
BUT STILL...
DID IT! MY SPIDER-TRACER STUCK TO THE WHEEL!

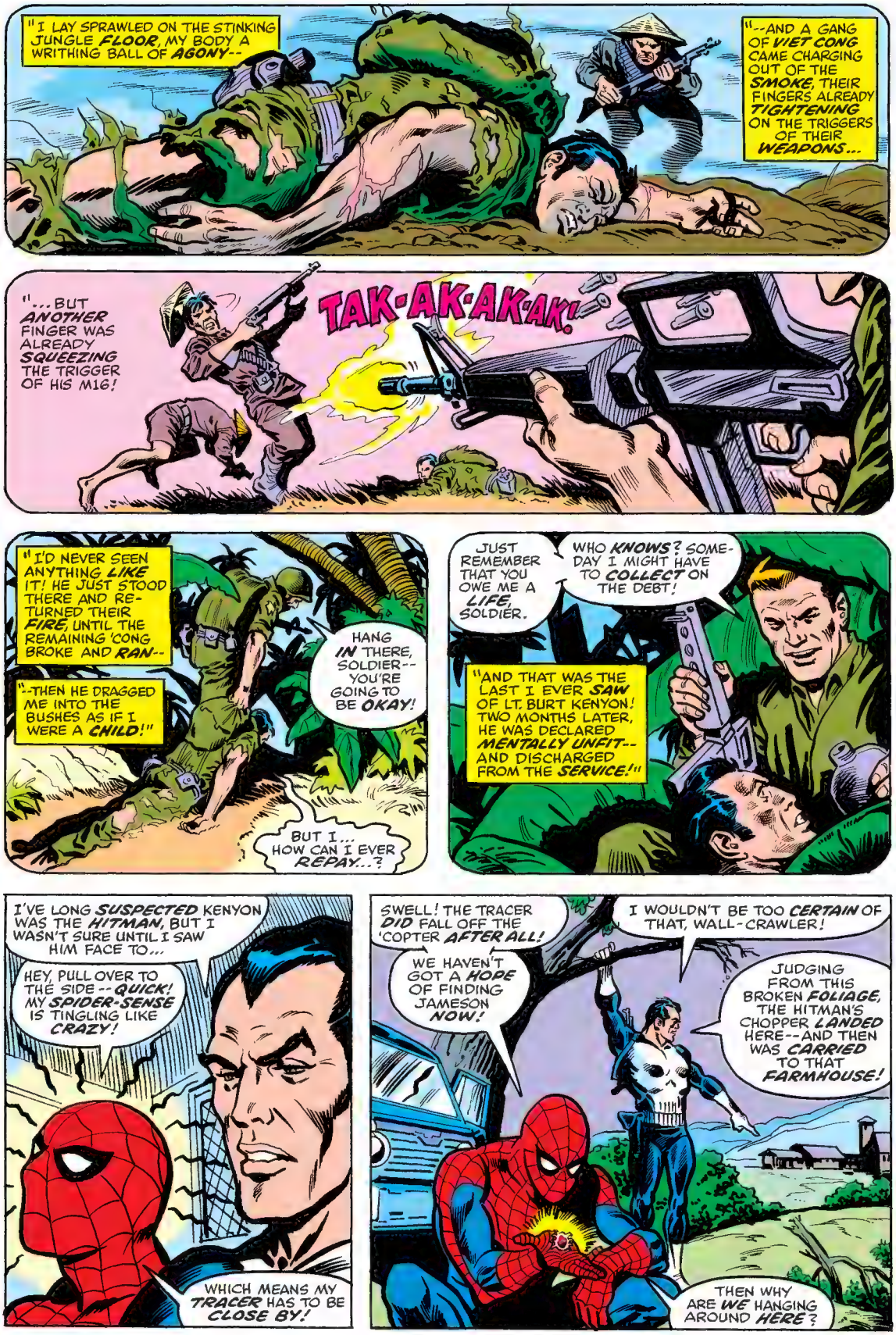

NOW, AT LEAST, WE'LL BE ABLE TO TRACK THEM WHEREVER THEY GO!
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE HITMAN, MY FRIEND-- HE'S AN ELECTRONICS WIZARD IN HIS OWN RIGHT!
IF HE SPOTS YOUR HOMING DEVICE, HE'LL QUICKLY RENDER IT USELESS!
WE'D BETTER FOLLOW WHILE WE STILL CAN!

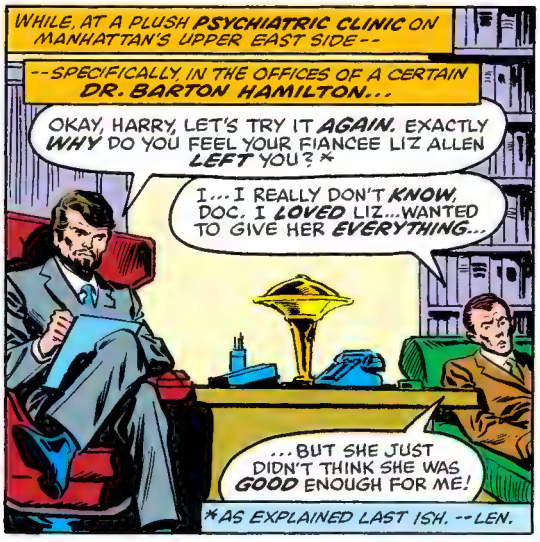

NO WAY, CHUMP! YOU AIN'T GOING NOWHERE!
HUH?
CRIPES! IT'S THE BUILDING GUARDS! I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT THEM!*
*FROM LAST ISH, RIGHT?-- LEN.

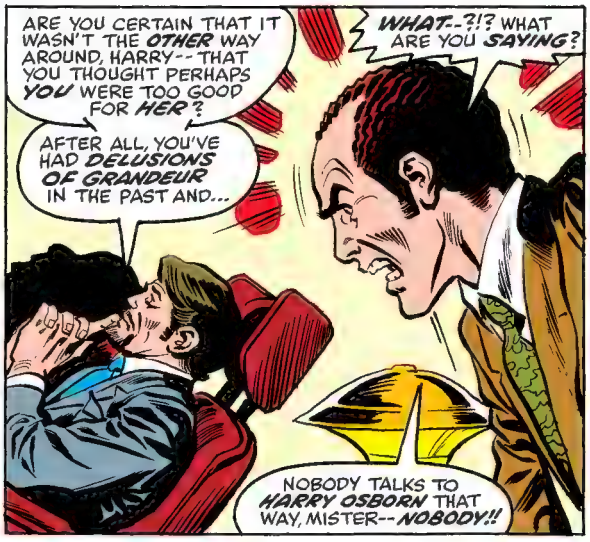

BROK!
BLAST IT, WE'VE NO TIME TO SPARE NOW!
BETTER INCAPACITATE THEM, WEBHEAD--BUT GENTLY AS POSSIBLE!
DON'T SWEAT IT, PAL! THIS IS HURTING ME A LOT MORE THAN IT DOES THEM!
CHUD!
POW!
WHUDD!
YOUR HUMOR IN THE FACE OF DANGER NEVER CEASES TO INFURIATE ME, WEB-SLINGER!
THIS ISN'T A GAME, MISTER--IT'S WAR!!
AND IT'S ABOUT TO GET WORSE!
THERE THEY ARE--AND THEY'VE PUT DOWN OUR FOUR BEST MEN!
REINFORCE-MENTS! WE'RE CORNERED!
SOMETHING TELLS ME IT'S TIME WE GOT OUT OF HERE!
EVER ZIPPED ACROSS TOWN ON A HANDY-DANDY WEB BEFORE, PUNISHER?
THWIP!
THWIP!
NOT EXACTLY, WALL-CRAWLER--BUT I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME I GOT INTO THE SWING OF THINGS!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
OUCH! AND YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT MY SENSE OF HUMOR!
C'MON--LET'S MOVE IT! THOSE POTSHOTS ARE STARTING TO COME FAR TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!


AND, SOON AFTER, WHEN THE STILL-DAZED GUARDS HAVE BEEN LED OFF THE ROOF-- AND THE PURSUIT OF SPIDEY AND THE PUNISHER HAS BEEN GIVEN UP AS HOPELESS...
AFTER ALL, YOU WOULDN'T BE HUMAN IF YOU DIDN'T EXPERIENCE SOME SORT OF REACTION!
YOU'RE A MOST UNDER-STANDING MAN, MR. ROBERTSON.
PLEASE-- CALL ME ROBBIE. EVERYONE ELSE DOES.
FORGIVE ME FOR CRYING, MR. ROBERTSON. I'M NOT USUALLY THIS EMOTIONAL!
NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE, DR. MADISON. AFTER WHAT YOU'VE JUST BEEN THRU, YOU'RE ENTITLED TO A GOOD CRY.
HERE, HONEY-- TRY SOME TEA. AND DON'T YOU WORRY NONE-- JJJ CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.
THANK YOU, MS. GRANT.
HEY, IT'S GLORY.
THEN THANK YOU... GLORY.
GLORY'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW. IF THE HITMAN HAD ONLY WANTED TO KILL HIM, JONAH WOULD BE VERY, VERY DEAD RIGHT NOW.
NO, I'M CERTAIN JAMESON WAS KIDNAPPED FOR A REASON...
...AND WE'LL DO WHATEVER WE HAVE TO DO-- WITHOUT HESITATION-- TO GET THE BOSS BACK SAFE AND SOUND!
YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT JONAH-- DON'T YOU, ROBBIE?
AND THAT'S A PROMISE, LADY!
I'VE NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT...
YEAH-- I GUESS I DO!
DON'T LET IT EMBARRASS YOU, ROBBIE... SO DO I!
AND PLEASE-- CALL ME MARLA.
WELL THEN, WELCOME TO THE CLUB... MARLA.

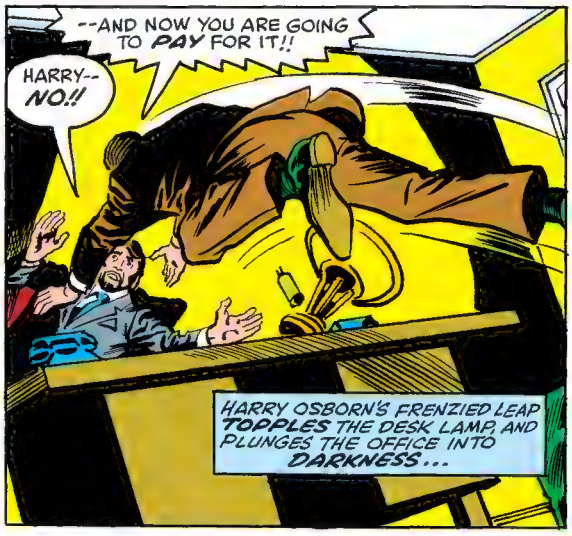

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 416: THE WAR WAGON WAS STILL WAITING WHEN SPIDER-MAN AND I DOUBLED BACK! I GUNNED THE ENGINE-- AND WE TOOK OFF AFTER THE HITMAN...
...BUT COULD EVEN WE FIND ONE LONE "NEEDLE" IN A HAYSTACK OF TEN MILLION PEOPLE?
HOW ARE WE DOING, WEB-SLINGER?
SO FAR SO GOOD! HANG A LEFT AT THE NEXT CORNER!
HEY, STOP ME IF I'M BEING TOO PERSONAL-- BUT I GOT THE IMPRESSION BACK AT THE BUGLE THAT YOU KNEW THE HITMAN FROM SOMEWHERE!
I DO INDEED, MY FRIEND! IRONICALLY ENOUGH, I OWE THAT MAN MY LIFE!
YOU'RE KIDDING! WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT?
WHY NOT? WHAT'S PAST IS PAST, ISN'T IT?
"IT HAPPENED BACK IN THE 'NAM! I WAS PART OF A PATROL, SEEKING OUT VIET CONG INFILTRATORS--
"--WHEN THE WORLD ERUPTED INTO THUNDER ALL AROUND US!"
BWHUMP!
AMBUSH!! EVERYBODY-- SCATTER!!
BHUD-UD-UD-AH!
FALL BACK!! I'LL COVER YOU AS LONG AS I CAN!
WE'RE SURROUNDED, SARGE! WHAT'LL WE... ARRGHH!!
"MY MEN BROKE FOR THE UNDERBRUSH...
"...AND I HAD JUST TURNED TO FOLLOW THEM, WHEN IT HAPPENED! A GRENADE, A MINE-- I NEVER KNEW WHICH-- EXPLODED RIGHT BEHIND ME...
ULUNNGGHH!!
"...AND I FIGURED MY WAR HAD COME TO AN END RIGHT THERE!"

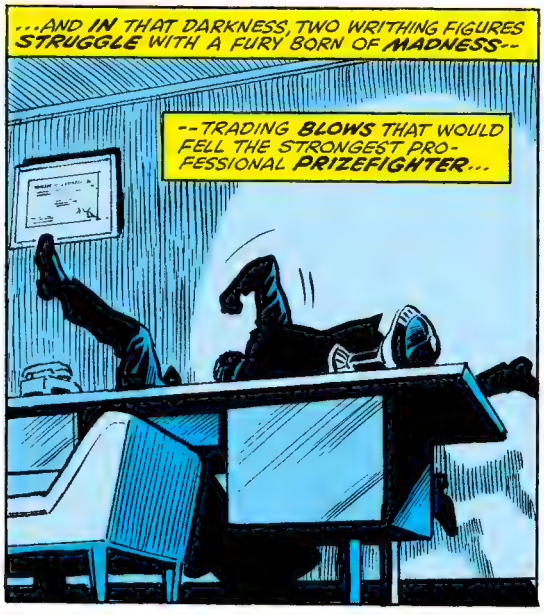

"I LAY SPRAWLED ON THE STINKING JUNGLE FLOOR, MY BODY A WRITHING BALL OF AGONY--
"--AND A GANG OF VIET CONG CAME CHARGING OUT OF THE SMOKE, THEIR FINGERS ALREADY TIGHTENING ON THE TRIGGERS OF THEIR WEAPONS...
"...BUT ANOTHER FINGER WAS ALREADY SQUEEZING THE TRIGGER OF HIS M16!
TAK-AK-AK-AK!
"I'D NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT! HE JUST STOOD THERE AND RETURNED THEIR FIRE, UNTIL THE REMAINING 'CONG BROKE AND RAN--
"--THEN HE DRAGGED ME INTO THE BUSHES AS IF I WERE A CHILD!"
HANG IN THERE, SOLDIER-- YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY!
BUT I... HOW CAN I EVER REPAY...?
JUST REMEMBER THAT YOU OWE ME A LIFE, SOLDIER.
WHO KNOWS? SOMEDAY I MIGHT HAVE TO COLLECT ON THE DEBT!
"AND THAT WAS THE LAST I EVER SAW OF LT. BURT KENYON! TWO MONTHS LATER, HE WAS DECLARED MENTALLY UNFIT-- AND DISCHARGED FROM THE SERVICE!"
I'VE LONG SUSPECTED KENYON WAS THE HITMAN, BUT I WASN'T SURE UNTIL I SAW HIM FACE TO...
HEY, PULL OVER TO THE SIDE -- QUICK! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING LIKE CRAZY!
WHICH MEANS MY TRACER HAS TO BE CLOSE BY!
SWELL! THE TRACER DID FALL OFF THE 'COPTER AFTER ALL!
I WOULDN'T BE TOO CERTAIN OF THAT, WALL-CRAWLER!
WE HAVEN'T GOT A HOPE OF FINDING JAMESON NOW!
JUDGING FROM THIS BROKEN FOLIAGE, THE HITMAN'S CHOPPER LANDED HERE--AND THEN WAS CARRIED TO THAT FARMHOUSE!
THEN WHY ARE WE HANGING AROUND HERE?


WHILE, AT A PLUSH PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER EAST SIDE--
--SPECIFICALLY, IN THE OFFICES OF A CERTAIN DR. BARTON HAMILTON...
OKAY, HARRY, LET'S TRY IT AGAIN. EXACTLY WHY DO YOU FEEL YOUR FIANCEE LIZ ALLEN LEFT YOU? *
I...I REALLY DON'T KNOW, DOC. I LOVED LIZ...WANTED TO GIVE HER EVERYTHING...
...BUT SHE JUST DIDN'T THINK SHE WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!
*AS EXPLAINED LAST ISH. --LEN.

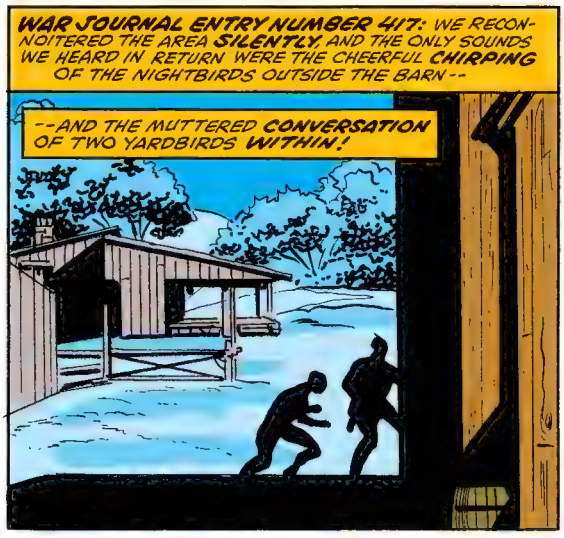

ARE YOU CERTAIN THAT IT WASN'T THE OTHER WAY AROUND, HARRY--THAT YOU THOUGHT PERHAPS YOU WERE TOO GOOD FOR HER?
WHAT--?!? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
AFTER ALL, YOU'VE HAD DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR IN THE PAST AND...
NOBODY TALKS TO HARRY OSBORN THAT WAY, MISTER--NOBODY!!

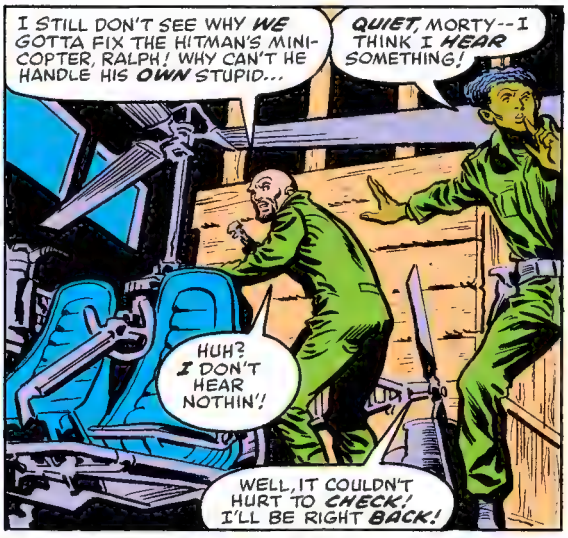
COME ON, HARRY--YOU'RE LETTING YOUR TEMPER RUN AWAY WITH... HUH?
YOU ARROGANT FOOL!
YOU DARED TO INSULT ME AND THE WOMAN I LOVE--


--AND NOW YOU ARE GOING TO PAY FOR IT!!
HARRY--NO!!
HARRY OSBORN'S FRENZIED LEAP TOPPLES THE DESK LAMP, AND PLUNGES THE OFFICE INTO DARKNESS...

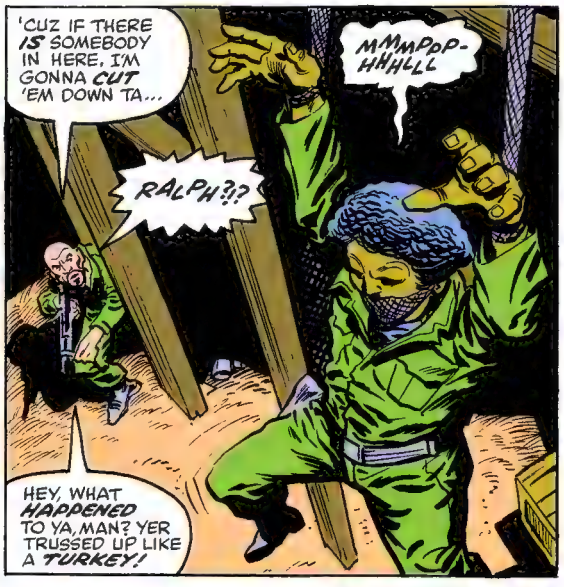

...AND IN THAT DARKNESS, TWO WRITHING FIGURES STRUGGLE WITH A FURY BORN OF MADNESS--
--TRADING BLOWS THAT WOULD FELL THE STRONGEST PROFESSIONAL PRIZEFIGHTER...

...UNTIL, AT LENGTH...
IT IS OVER! THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD POSSIBLY OPPOSE ME IS FINALLY BEATEN!
NOW, AT LAST, THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE GREEN GOBLIN TO LIVE AGAIN!!

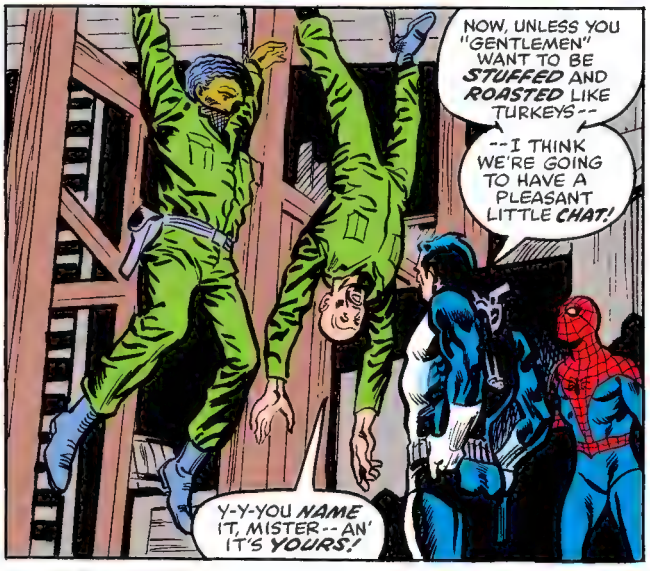

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 417: WE RECONNOITERED THE AREA SILENTLY, AND THE ONLY SOUNDS WE HEARD IN RETURN WERE THE CHEERFUL CHIRPING OF THE NIGHTBIRDS OUTSIDE THE BARN--
--AND THE MUTTERED CONVERSATION OF TWO YARDBIRDS WITHIN!

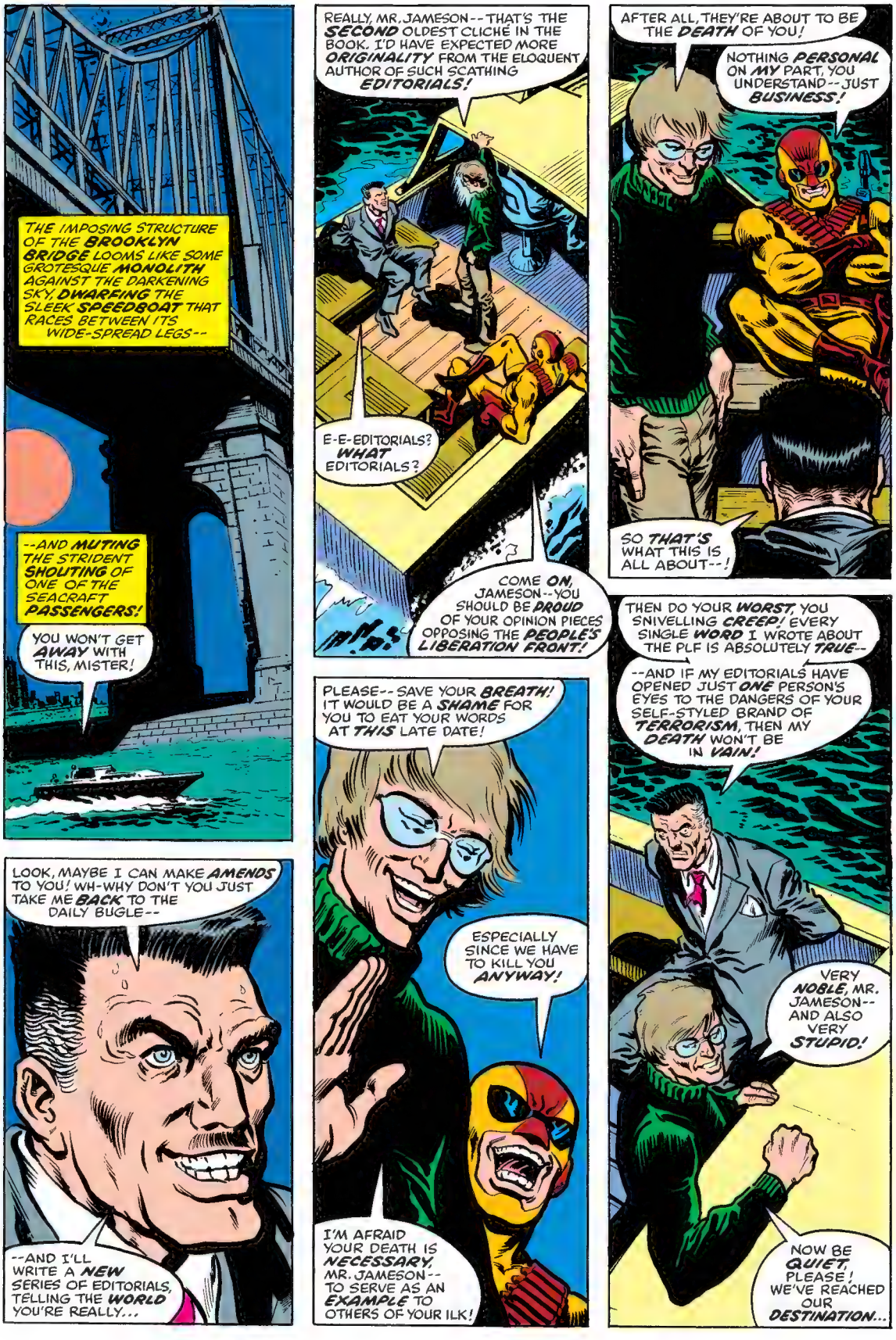

I STILL DON'T SEE WHY WE GOTTA FIX THE HITMAN'S MINI-COPTER, RALPH! WHY CAN'T HE HANDLE HIS OWN STUPID...
QUIET, MORTY--I THINK I HEAR SOMETHING!
HUH? I DON'T HEAR NOTHIN'!
WELL, IT COULDN'T HURT TO CHECK! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

BUT AS THE MINUTES PASSED...
HEY, C'MON, RALPH-- WHAT'S KEEPIN' YA? WE GOT WORK TA DO!
RALPH? HEY, MAN-- WHY DON'CHA ANSWER ME?
Y'KNOW, SOMETHIN'S WRONG HERE--AN' I BETTER FIND OUT WHAT!


'CUZ IF THERE IS SOMEBODY IN HERE, I'M GONNA CUT 'EM DOWN TA...
MMMPPPP-HHHLL
RALPH?!?
HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO YA, MAN? YER TRUSSED UP LIKE A TURKEY!

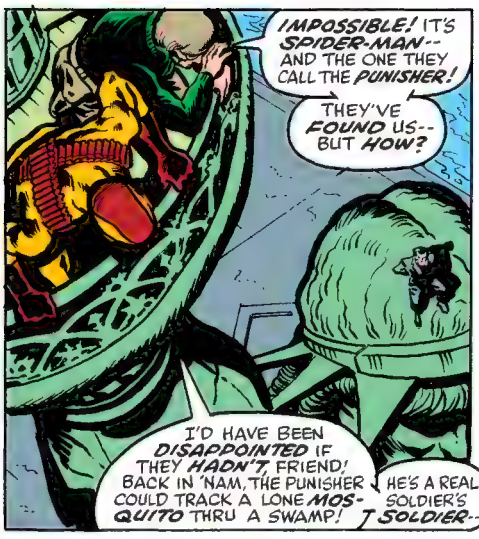
I COULDN'T HAVE PUT IT BETTER MYSELF... "TURKEY"!
THWAK!
THWAK!
HEY-- WHA--?!?


NOW, UNLESS YOU "GENTLEMEN" WANT TO BE STUFFED AND ROASTED LIKE TURKEYS--
--I THINK WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A PLEASANT LITTLE CHAT!
Y-Y-YOU NAME IT, MISTER--AN' IT'S YOURS!


THE IMPOSING STRUCTURE OF THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE LOOMS LIKE SOME GROTESQUE MONOLITH AGAINST THE DARKENING SKY, DWARFING THE SLEEK SPEEDBOAT THAT RACES BETWEEN ITS WIDE-SPREAD LEGS--
--AND MUTING THE STRIDENT SHOUTING OF ONE OF THE SEACRAFT PASSENGERS!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS, MISTER!
REALLY, MR. JAMESON--THAT'S THE SECOND OLDEST CLICHÉ IN THE BOOK. I'D HAVE EXPECTED MORE ORIGINALITY FROM THE ELOQUENT AUTHOR OF SUCH SCATHING EDITORIALS!
E-E-EDITORIALS? WHAT EDITORIALS?
COME ON, JAMESON--YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR OPINION PIECES OPPOSING THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT!
AFTER ALL, THEY'RE ABOUT TO BE THE DEATH OF YOU!
NOTHING PERSONAL ON MY PART, YOU UNDERSTAND--JUST BUSINESS!
SO THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT--!
LOOK, MAYBE I CAN MAKE AMENDS TO YOU! WH-WHY DON'T YOU JUST TAKE ME BACK TO THE DAILY BUGLE--
--AND I'LL WRITE A NEW SERIES OF EDITORIALS, TELLING THE WORLD YOU'RE REALLY...
PLEASE--SAVE YOUR BREATH! IT WOULD BE A SHAME FOR YOU TO EAT YOUR WORDS AT THIS LATE DATE!
ESPECIALLY SINCE WE HAVE TO KILL YOU ANYWAY!
I'M AFRAID YOUR DEATH IS NECESSARY, MR. JAMESON--TO SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHERS OF YOUR ILK!
THEN DO YOUR WORST, YOU SNIVELLING CREEP! EVERY SINGLE WORD I WROTE ABOUT THE PLF IS ABSOLUTELY TRUE--
--AND IF MY EDITORIALS HAVE OPENED JUST ONE PERSON'S EYES TO THE DANGERS OF YOUR SELF-STYLED BRAND OF TERRORISM, THEN MY DEATH WON'T BE IN VAIN!
VERY NOBLE, MR. JAMESON--AND ALSO VERY STUPID!
NOW BE QUIET, PLEASE! WE'VE REACHED OUR DESTINATION...

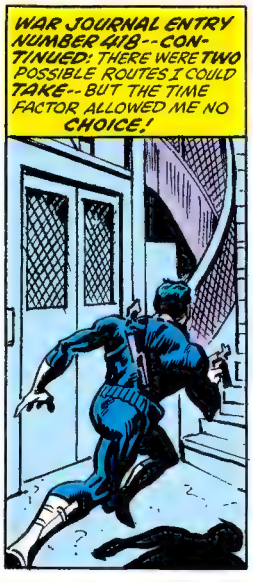
"...THE STATUE OF LIBERTY!"
SLOWING ITS ENGINES, THE SPEED-BOAT SLIDES TO A HALT BEFORE THE LIBERTY ISLAND PIER--
--WHERE A MOST UNRECEPTIVE WELCOMING COMMITTEE STANDS WAITING!
GOOD EVENING! MIND IF WE TIE UP?
IN A WORD--YES! WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE, MISTER?
KISMET
1056-G
WHAT ELSE? MY FRIENDS AND I HAVE COME TO SEE THE PRETTY LADY!
ONE WORD, JAMESON--AND YOU ALL BUY IT!
MAN, HAVE YOU GOT YOUR WIRES CROSSED! THE STATUE IS CLOSED FOR THE NIGHT, MISTER! YOU'LL HAVE TO COME BACK TOMORROW!
WE'VE COME A LONG WAY, FRIEND! ANY CHANCE OF MAKING AN EXCEPTION?
NOT A ONE! YOU'D BETTER SHOVE OFF NOW, MISTER!
ANYTHING YOU SAY, FRIEND--BUT AT LEAST YOU CAN'T SAY WE DIDN'T TRY!
OH--UH--BY THE WAY, BEFORE WE GO, THERE'S SOMETHING WE'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN!
YEAH? WHAT'S THAT?
WHUMP!
WE JUST WANTED TO LEAVE YOU--THESE!!
WHUMP!
PLEASANT DREAMS--YOU SIMPLE-MINDED SWINE!
OKAY, EVERYONE--OUT OF THE HOLD!
MOVE QUICKLY, BROTHERS--WE HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE!
NO NEED TO WORRY! WE'VE BEEN TRAINING FOR THIS MOMENT FOR MONTHS!

THE SOMNA-GAS WILL KEEP THOSE CAPITALIST PUPPETS OUT OF OUR HAIR FOR SEVERAL HOURS--
--MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME TO DO WHAT MUST BE DONE!
EVERYTHING IS CLEAR UP AHEAD! THE STATUE IS DESERTED!
THEN WE'D BEST GET MOVING, MR. JAMESON! YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE LATE FOR YOUR DATE WITH DESTINY!
WHAT ARE YOU MANIACS PLANNING TO DO?
ACTUALLY, IT'S QUITE SIMPLE! WE INTEND TO PLANT HIGH EXPLOSIVES THROUGHOUT THE STATUE--
"--THEN WE'RE GOING TO DE-STROY THIS SYMBOL OF THE PEOPLE'S OPPRESSION, WITH YOU STANDING SQUARELY ON TOP OF IT!"
NO--MERELY DETERMINED!
FRANK! MILO! YOU STAND GUARD DOWN HERE! THE REST OF US ARE GOING ON UP!
Y-YOU'RE INSANE!
AND WHEN THE UNDERGROUND ARMY HAS DISAPPEARED INTO THE VERY HEART OF LADY LIBERTY...
DON'T KNOW WHY WE ALWAYS DRAW GUARD DUTY, FRANK! I WANTED TO BE IN ON... HUH?
THAT SOUND--! SOMETHING'S COMING THIS WAY! I DON'T SEE ANOTHER SPEEDBOAT, SO WHAT..?
HEY-- UP IN FRONT OF THE MOON-- LOOK!!
IT'S THE HITMAN'S REMOTE-CONTROLLED MINI-COPTER! RALPH AND MORTY MUST'VE REPAIRED IT-- AND THEY'RE BRINGING IT HERE!
BUT THEY WERE ORDERED TO STAY AT THE BARN! WHY DID THEY DISOBEY...?
HEY, THAT'S NOT RALPH AND MORTY! IT'S...
...AARRGGHH!!
BHUD-UD-UD-AH!
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 418: THE PLF PUNKS FELL BEFORE MY FIRST BURST-- AND THE FINAL CONFRONTATION WAS BEGUN!

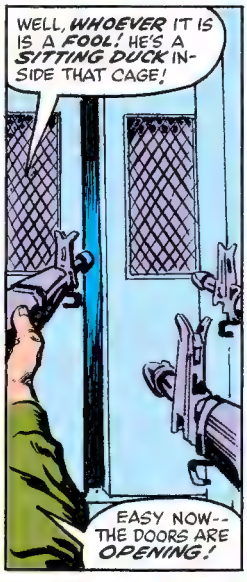

IMPOSSIBLE! IT'S SPIDER-MAN-- AND THE ONE THEY CALL THE PUNISHER!
THEY'VE FOUND US-- BUT HOW?
I'D HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED IF THEY HADN'T, FRIEND! BACK IN 'NAM, THE PUNISHER COULD TRACK A LONE MOSQUITO THRU A SWAMP!
HE'S A REAL SOLDIER'S SOLDIER--

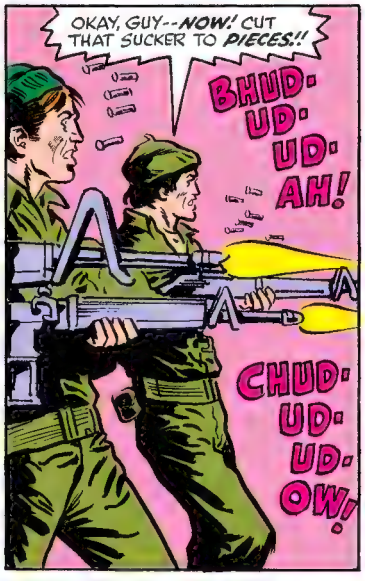
--AND I'M GOING TO HATE HAVING TO KILL HIM!
THE WEB-SLINGER FOLLOWED ME HERE?
BUT AFTER ALL I'VE DONE TO HIM... WHY?

THOSE MERCY-BULLETS I FORCED YOU TO USE--AND MY WEBBING--WILL KEEP THESE CLOWNS OUT OF ACTION! BUT NOW WHAT?
I'LL GO UP INSIDE THE STATUE, WALL-CRAWLER-- YOU TAKE THE OUTSIDE--AND I'LL MEET YOU AT THE TOP!


WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 418--CONTINUED: THERE WERE TWO POSSIBLE ROUTES I COULD TAKE--BUT THE TIME FACTOR ALLOWED ME NO CHOICE!

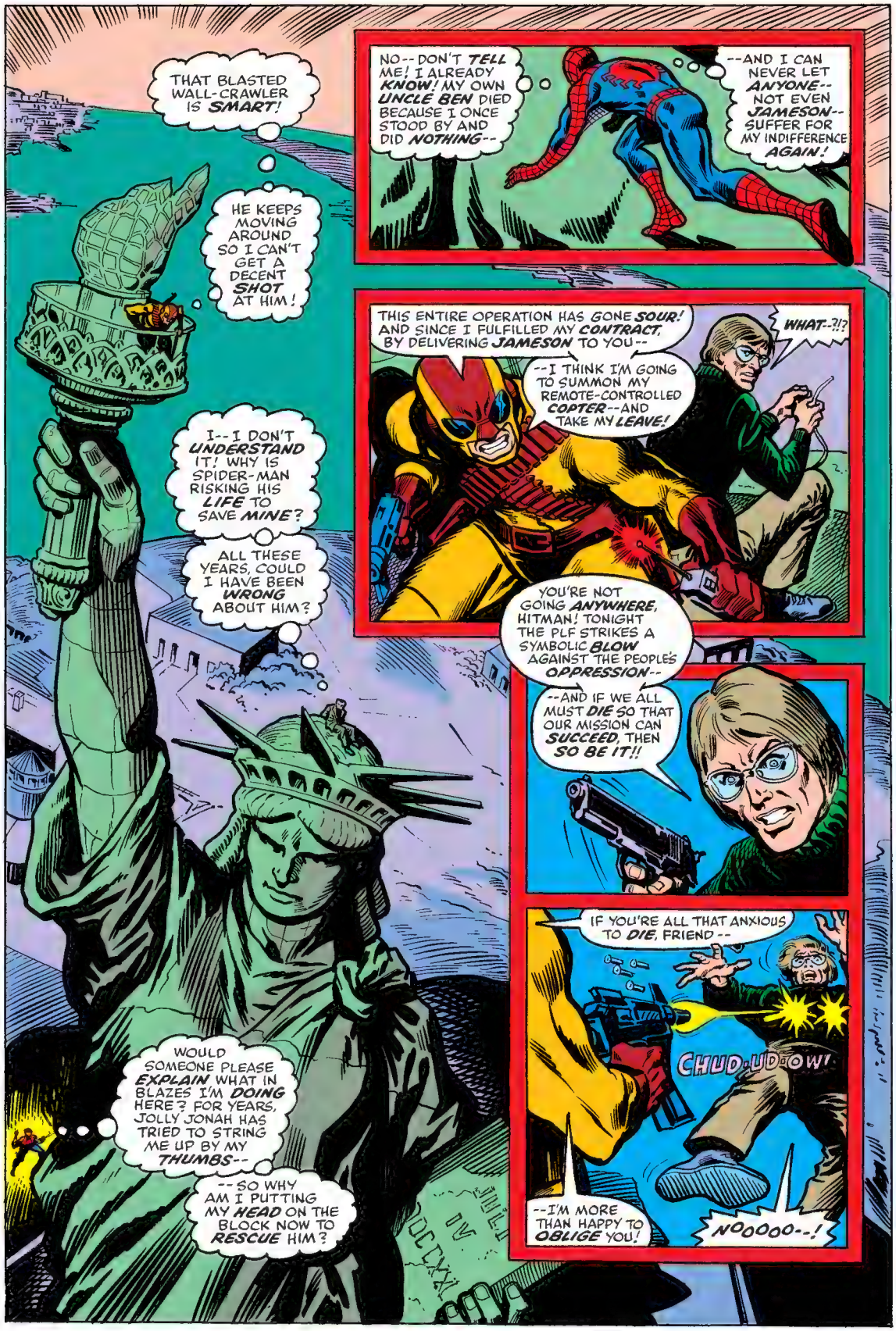
I STABBED THE BUTTON-- AND THE ELEVATOR HUMMED TO LIFE!
HEY-- LISTEN!
SOMEONE'S COMIN' UP IN THE ELEVATOR!

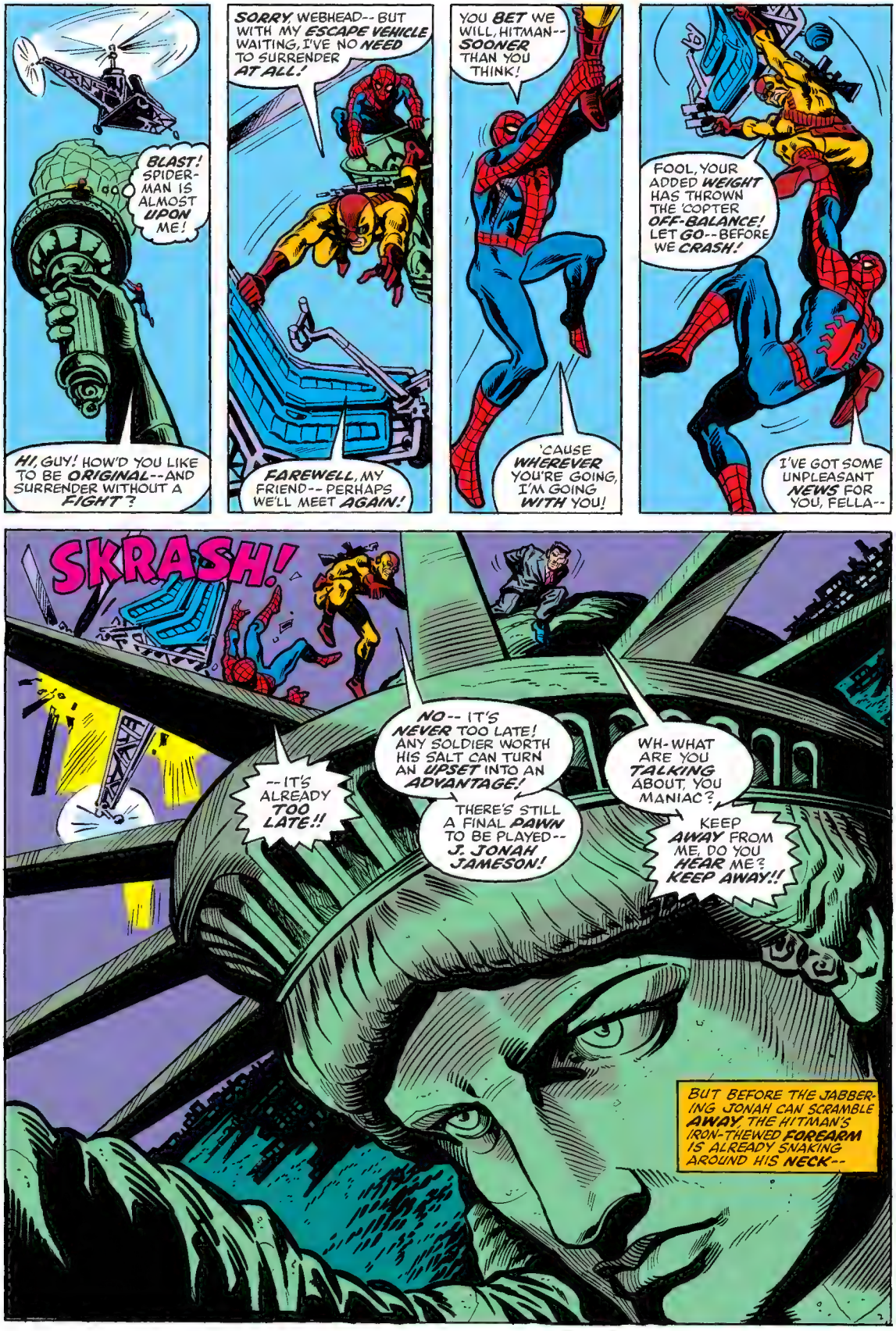

WELL, WHOEVER IT IS IS A FOOL! HE'S A SITTING DUCK INSIDE THAT CAGE!
EASY NOW-- THE DOORS ARE OPENING!

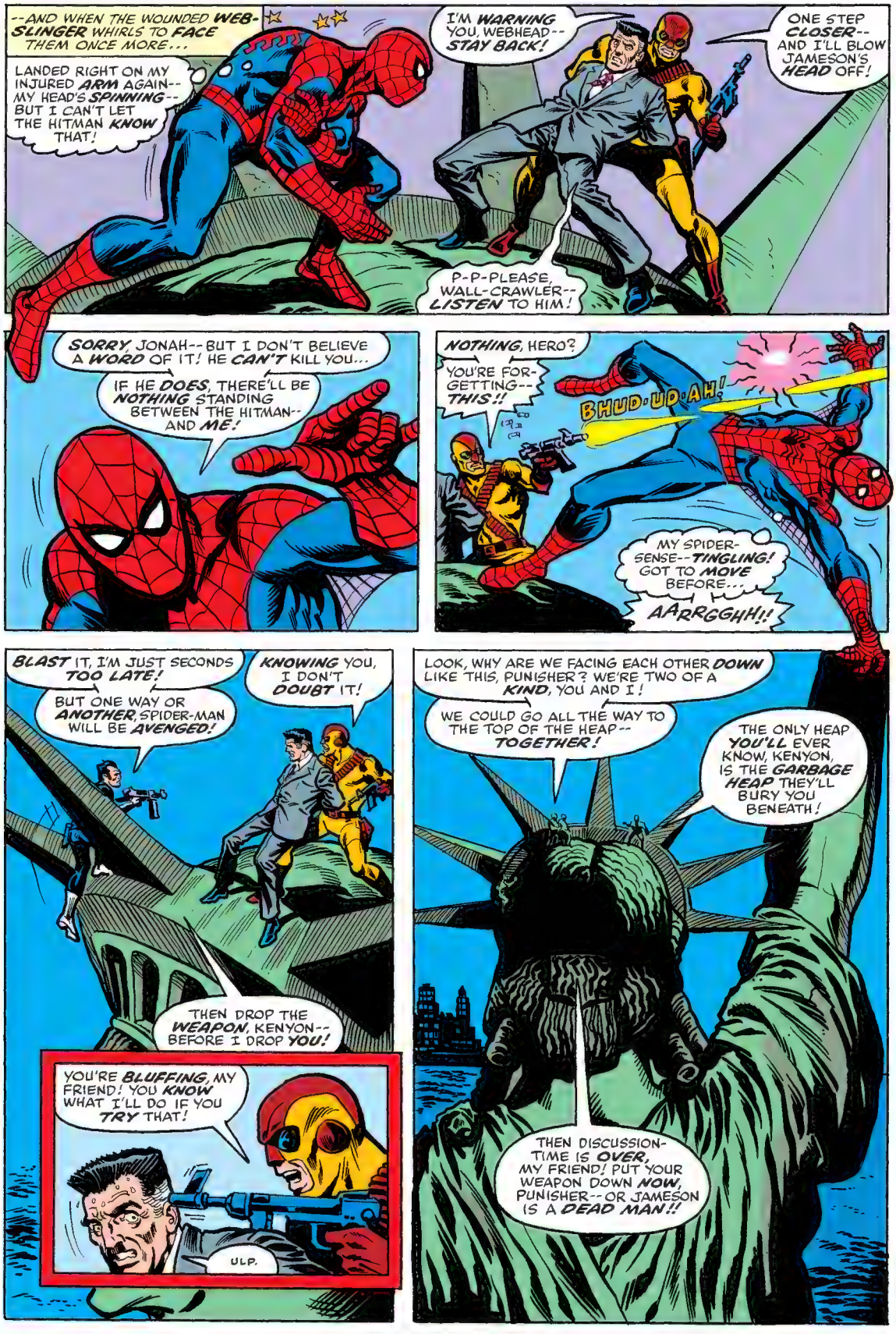

OKAY, GUY--NOW! CUT THAT SUCKER TO PIECES!!
BHUD-UD-UD-AH!
CHUD-UD-UD-OW!

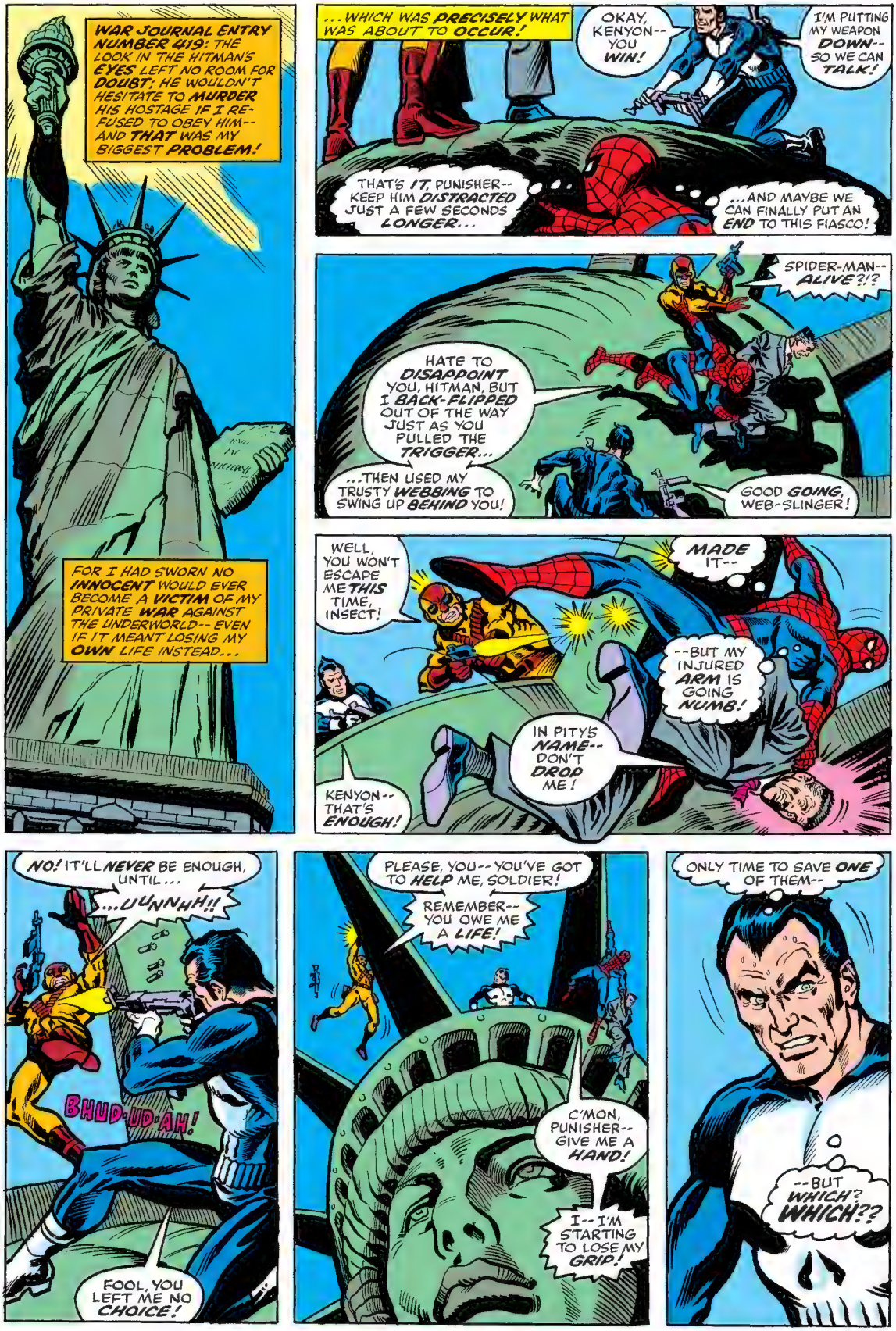
BUT WHEN THE CORDITE-SCENTED SMOKE AT LAST CLEARED...
HUH? THE ELEVATOR-- IT'S EMPTY?!?
I--I DON'T GET
BUT YOU WILL, PUNK--
HUH?

--YOU WILL!!
BHUD-UD-UD-AH!

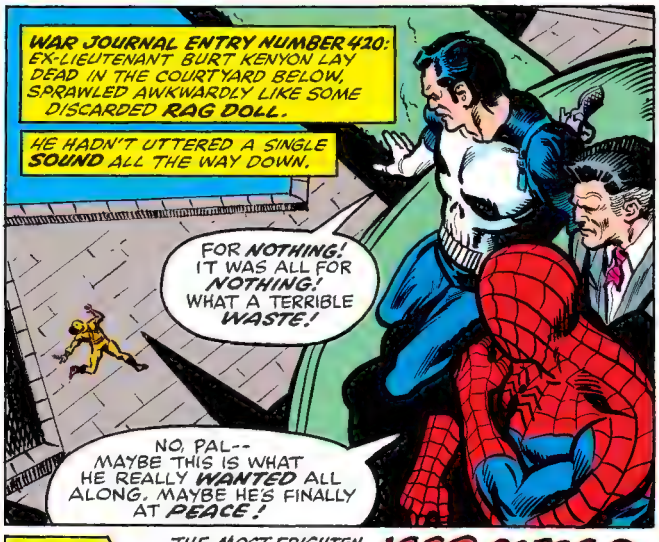

THAT BLASTED WALL-CRAWLER IS SMART!
HE KEEPS MOVING AROUND SO I CAN'T GET A DECENT SHOT AT HIM!
I-- I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! WHY IS SPIDER-MAN RISKING HIS LIFE TO SAVE MINE?
ALL THESE YEARS, COULD I HAVE BEEN WRONG ABOUT HIM?
WOULD SOMEONE PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT IN BLAZES I'M DOING HERE? FOR YEARS, JOLLY JONAH HAS TRIED TO STRING ME UP BY MY THUMBS--
--SO WHY AM I PUTTING MY HEAD ON THE BLOCK NOW TO RESCUE HIM?
NO-- DON'T TELL ME! I ALREADY KNOW! MY OWN UNCLE BEN DIED BECAUSE I ONCE STOOD BY AND DID NOTHING--
--AND I CAN NEVER LET ANYONE-- NOT EVEN JAMESON-- SUFFER FOR MY INDIFFERENCE AGAIN!
THIS ENTIRE OPERATION HAS GONE SOUR! AND SINCE I FULFILLED MY CONTRACT, BY DELIVERING JAMESON TO YOU--
--I THINK I'M GOING TO SUMMON MY REMOTE-CONTROLLED COPTER-- AND TAKE MY LEAVE!
WHAT-?!?
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, HITMAN! TONIGHT THE PLF STRIKES A SYMBOLIC BLOW AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S OPPRESSION--
--AND IF WE ALL MUST DIE SO THAT OUR MISSION CAN SUCCEED, THEN SO BE IT!!
IF YOU'RE ALL THAT ANXIOUS TO DIE, FRIEND --
CHUD-UD-OW!
--I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO OBLIGE YOU!
NOOOOO--!


BLAST! SPIDER-MAN IS ALMOST UPON ME!
HI, GUY! HOW'D YOU LIKE TO BE ORIGINAL--AND SURRENDER WITHOUT A FIGHT?
SORRY WEBHEAD-- BUT WITH MY ESCAPE VEHICLE WAITING, I'VE NO NEED TO SURRENDER AT ALL!
FAREWELL, MY FRIEND-- PERHAPS WE'LL MEET AGAIN!
YOU BET WE WILL, HITMAN-- SOONER THAN YOU THINK!
'CAUSE WHEREVER YOU'RE GOING, I'M GOING WITH YOU!
FOOL, YOUR ADDED WEIGHT HAS THROWN THE 'COPTER OFF-BALANCE! LET GO-- BEFORE WE CRASH!
I'VE GOT SOME UNPLEASANT NEWS FOR YOU, FELLA--
SKRASH!
--IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE!!
NO-- IT'S NEVER TOO LATE! ANY SOLDIER WORTH HIS SALT CAN TURN AN UPSET INTO AN ADVANTAGE!
THERE'S STILL A FINAL PAWN TO BE PLAYED-- J. JONAH JAMESON!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOU MANIAC?
KEEP AWAY FROM ME, DO YOU HEAR ME? KEEP AWAY!!
BUT BEFORE THE JABBERING JONAH CAN SCRAMBLE AWAY, THE HITMAN'S IRON-THEWED FOREARM IS ALREADY SNAKING AROUND HIS NECK--


--AND WHEN THE WOUNDED WEB-SLINGER WHIRLS TO FACE THEM ONCE MORE...
LANDED RIGHT ON MY INJURED ARM AGAIN--MY HEAD'S SPINNING--BUT I CAN'T LET THE HITMAN KNOW THAT!
I'M WARNING YOU, WEBHEAD--STAY BACK!
ONE STEP CLOSER--AND I'LL BLOW JAMESON'S HEAD OFF!
P-P-PLEASE, WALL-CRAWLER--LISTEN TO HIM!
SORRY, JONAH--BUT I DON'T BELIEVE A WORD OF IT! HE CAN'T KILL YOU...
IF HE DOES, THERE'LL BE NOTHING STANDING BETWEEN THE HITMAN--AND ME!
NOTHING, HERO?
YOU'RE FORGETTING--THIS!!
BHUD-UD-AH!
MY SPIDER-SENSE--TINGLING! GOT TO MOVE BEFORE...
AARRGGHH!!
BLAST IT, I'M JUST SECONDS TOO LATE!
BUT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, SPIDER-MAN WILL BE AVENGED!
KNOWING YOU, I DON'T DOUBT IT!
THEN DROP THE WEAPON, KENYON--BEFORE I DROP YOU!
YOU'RE BLUFFING, MY FRIEND! YOU KNOW WHAT I'LL DO IF YOU TRY THAT!
ULP.
LOOK, WHY ARE WE FACING EACH OTHER DOWN LIKE THIS, PUNISHER? WE'RE TWO OF A KIND, YOU AND I!
WE COULD GO ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP OF THE HEAP--TOGETHER!
THE ONLY HEAP YOU'LL EVER KNOW, KENYON, IS THE GARBAGE HEAP THEY'LL BURY YOU BENEATH!
THEN DISCUSSION-TIME IS OVER, MY FRIEND! PUT YOUR WEAPON DOWN NOW, PUNISHER--OR JAMESON IS A DEAD MAN!!


WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 419: THE LOOK IN THE HITMAN'S EYES LEFT NO ROOM FOR DOUBT: HE WOULDN'T HESITATE TO MURDER HIS HOSTAGE IF I REFUSED TO OBEY HIM--AND THAT WAS MY BIGGEST PROBLEM!
FOR I HAD SWORN NO INNOCENT WOULD EVER BECOME A VICTIM OF MY PRIVATE WAR AGAINST THE UNDERWORLD--EVEN IF IT MEANT LOSING MY OWN LIFE INSTEAD...
...WHICH WAS PRECISELY WHAT WAS ABOUT TO OCCUR!
OKAY, KENYON--YOU WIN!
I'M PUTTING MY WEAPON DOWN--SO WE CAN TALK!
THAT'S IT, PUNISHER--KEEP HIM DISTRACTED JUST A FEW SECONDS LONGER...
...AND MAYBE WE CAN FINALLY PUT AN END TO THIS FIASCO!
SPIDER-MAN--ALIVE?!?
HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU, HITMAN, BUT I BACK-FLIPPED OUT OF THE WAY JUST AS YOU PULLED THE TRIGGER...
...THEN USED MY TRUSTY WEBBING TO SWING UP BEHIND YOU!
GOOD GOING, WEB-SLINGER!
WELL, YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME THIS TIME, INSECT!
MADE IT--
--BUT MY INJURED ARM IS GOING NUMB!
IN PITY'S NAME--DON'T DROP ME!
KENYON--THAT'S ENOUGH!
NO! IT'LL NEVER BE ENOUGH, UNTIL...
...UUNNHH!!
BHUD-UD-AH!
FOOL, YOU LEFT ME NO CHOICE!
PLEASE, YOU--YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, SOLDIER!
REMEMBER--YOU OWE ME A LIFE!
C'MON, PUNISHER--GIVE ME A HAND!
I--I'M STARTING TO LOSE MY GRIP!
ONLY TIME TO SAVE ONE OF THEM--
--BUT WHICH? WHICH??

IT WAS A QUESTION THAT NEEDN'T TRULY DESERVE ANSWERING!
CAN'T FEEL MY FINGERS ANYMORE... STARTING TO SLIP...
HELP ME, PUNISHER!!
HANG ON WEB-SPINNER-- I'LL PULL YOU BOTH TO SAFETY!
BUT WHAT ABOUT ME, SOLDIER-- WHAT ABOUT ME??


WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 420: EX-LIEUTENANT BURT KENYON LAY DEAD IN THE COURTYARD BELOW, SPRAWLED AWKWARDLY LIKE SOME DISCARDED RAG DOLL.
HE HADN'T UTTERED A SINGLE SOUND ALL THE WAY DOWN.
FOR NOTHING! IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING! WHAT A TERRIBLE WASTE!
NO, PAL-- MAYBE THIS IS WHAT HE REALLY WANTED ALL ALONG, MAYBE HE'S FINALLY AT PEACE!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE MOST FRIGHTENING SUPER-FOE OF ALL RETURNS, AND SPIDER-MAN IS HELPLESS TO STOP HIM! BE HERE FOR...

"HE WHO LAUGHS LAST...!"

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
35¢
176
JAN
02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
YOU!?! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO FLASH THOMPSON?
NOTHING, WEB-SLINGER--COMPARED TO WHAT THE DEADLIEST SUPER-FOE OF ALL IS ABOUT TO DO TO YOU!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN WRITER / EDITOR * ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR * TONY DeZUNIGA EMBELLISHER * GLYNIS WEIN COLORIST * JOE ROSEN LETTERER

HE WHO LAUGHS LAST...!

ONE OF THE **BEST** THINGS ABOUT LIVING IN **NEW YORK CITY** IS THAT YOU NEVER KNOW JUST **WHAT** YOU'RE GONNA SEE **NEXT**.!

TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE UNLIKELY **DUO** CURRENTLY SWINGING WILDLY THROUGH THE GREY-FLECKED MIDNIGHT **SKY**...

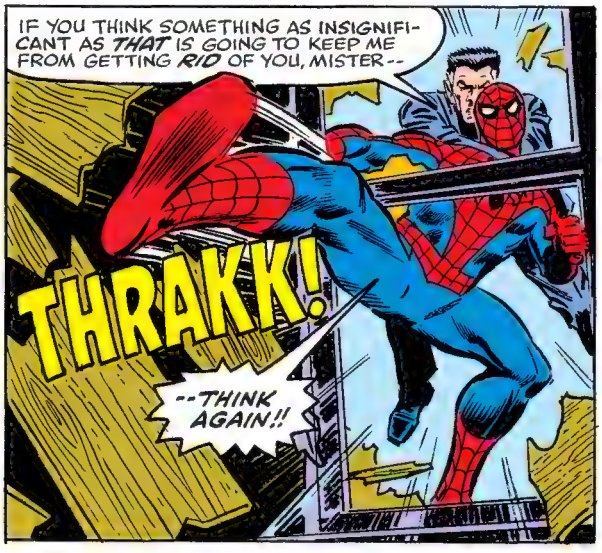
CAN'T YOU SWING ANY **SLOWER**, WEB-SLINGER? THE **WIND** IS MAKING MY **EYES** STING!

AND, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, STOP **TWISTING** LIKE THAT--BEFORE YOU MAKE ME LOSE MY **GRIP**!

IF YOU DON'T KEEP **QUIET**, JONAH--I MAY JUST DROP YOU RIGHT **HERE**!

IF THERE'S ONE THING NOBODY CAN **STAND**, IT'S A **BACKSEAT DRIVER**!

Y-YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS... ARE YOU?
DON'T TEMPT ME.
LOOK--WE'VE REACHED YOUR OFFICES! THERE, THANK THE LORD, IS WHERE YOU GET OFF!
BUT HOW--THEY'VE BOARDED UP THE WINDOWS AFTER YOU AND THE PUNISHER KICKED THEM IN!*
*IN ISSUE #174, RIGHT? --LEN.

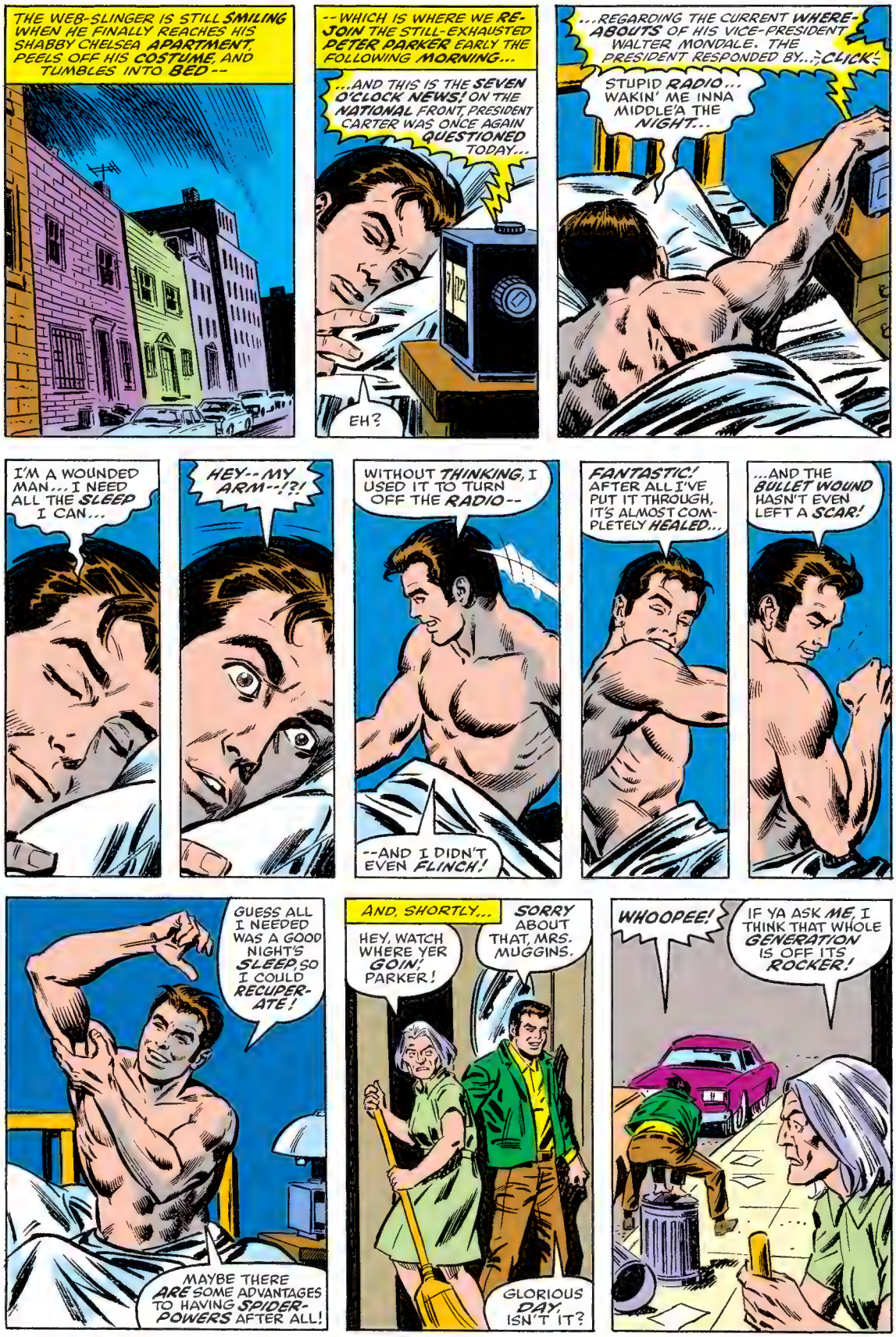

IF YOU THINK SOMETHING AS INSIGNIFICANT AS THAT IS GOING TO KEEP ME FROM GETTING RID OF YOU, MISTER--
THRAKK!
--THINK AGAIN!!

THERE YOU GO, JONAH--ALL SAFE AND SOUND!
HUMFPH
HEY, YOU COULD THANK ME, Y'KNOW, I DID JUST SAVE YOU FROM BEING MURDERED!
WELL, DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH WAITING, WALL-CRAWLER!

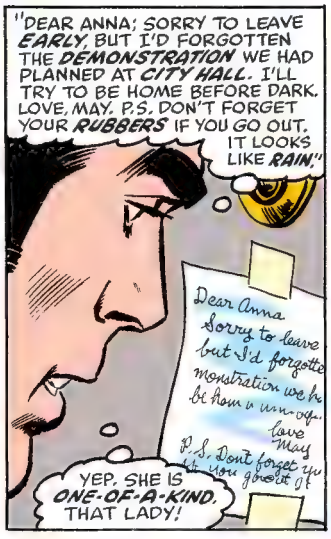
FOR ALL I KNOW, YOU COULD HAVE SET UP THAT WHOLE THING--MY KIDNAPPING BY THE HITMAN AND ALL THE REST*--JUST TO MAKE YOURSELF LOOK GOOD!
THERE'S NOTHING I WOULDN'T PUT PAST YOU!
HUH?
*AS DETAILED THESE PAST TWO ISSUES. --LEN AGAIN.

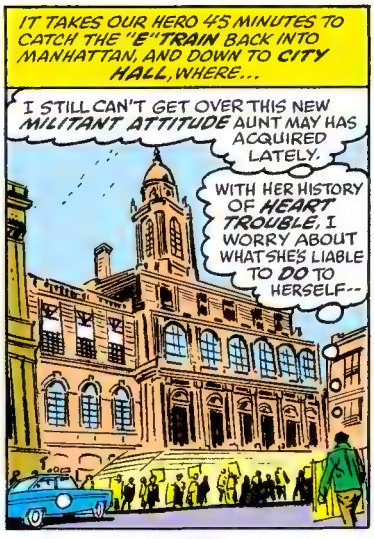
Y'KNOW, YOU ALMOST MADE IT!
MADE WHAT?
YOU ALMOST MADE IT THROUGH AN ENTIRE CONVERSATION WITHOUT MAKING ME WANT TO SLUG YOU ONE!

YOU CAN'T THREATEN ME, BUSTER! WE'RE IN MY OFFICE NOW! THIS IS MY DOMAIN--
--AND J. JONAH JAMESON DOESN'T TAKE THIS KIND OF GUFF FROM ANYBODY, LET ALONE YOU!
YOU FINISHED, FELLA?
FINISHED? WEB-SLINGER, I HAVEN'T EVEN BEGUN YET!
BY THE TIME MY NEWSPAPER AND I ARE DONE WITH YOU, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SHOW YOUR MASK IN THIS TOWN AGAIN!
JAMESON, YOU'RE ASKING FOR IT--
--AND, FOR A CHANGE, YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT!
HEY, WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?
NOTHING YOU DON'T DESERVE TWICE OVER, BRIGHT-EYES!
B-BLAST YOU--ST-ST-STOP THIS CHAIR--!
NO CHANCE! IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GOT INTO THE SPIN OF THINGS, JONAH--
--AND, FRANKLY, I HOPE IT MAKES YOU NAUSEOUS!
COME BACK HERE, INSECT! YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE LAST OF THIS!
DO ME A FAVOR, JAMESON--NEXT TIME YOU NEED SOMEONE TO SAVE YOUR SKIN, CALL THE AVENGERS, OKAY?
I HEAR THEY WORK ON COMMISSION!
WHOK!
LAUGH NOW, WEB-HEAD, BUT I'M GOING TO... UUNNHH!!
WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW--THAT SOUND PROVES ME RIGHT!
JONAH'S HEAD IS HOLLOW!

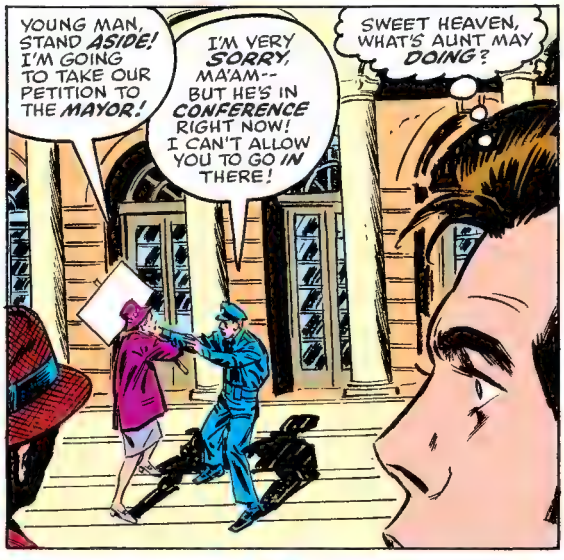

THE WEB-SLINGER IS STILL SMILING WHEN HE FINALLY REACHES HIS SHABBY CHELSEA APARTMENT, PEELS OFF HIS COSTUME, AND TUMBLES INTO BED --
--WHICH IS WHERE WE RE-JOIN THE STILL-EXHAUSTED PETER PARKER EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
...AND THIS IS THE SEVEN O'CLOCK NEWS! ON THE NATIONAL FRONT, PRESIDENT CARTER WAS ONCE AGAIN QUESTIONED TODAY...
EH?
...REGARDING THE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF HIS VICE-PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE. THE PRESIDENT RESPONDED BY...
CLICK!
STUPID RADIO... WAKIN' ME INNA MIDDLE'A THE NIGHT...
I'M A WOUNDED MAN... I NEED ALL THE SLEEP I CAN...
HEY--MY ARM--!?!
WITHOUT THINKING, I USED IT TO TURN OFF THE RADIO--
--AND I DIDN'T EVEN FLINCH!
FANTASTIC! AFTER ALL I'VE PUT IT THROUGH, IT'S ALMOST COMPLETELY HEALED...
...AND THE BULLET WOUND HASN'T EVEN LEFT A SCAR!
GUESS ALL I NEEDED WAS A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP, SO I COULD RECUPERATE!
MAYBE THERE ARE SOME ADVANTAGES TO HAVING SPIDER-POWERS AFTER ALL!
AND, SHORTLY...
HEY, WATCH WHERE YER GOIN', PARKER!
SORRY ABOUT THAT, MRS. MUGGINS.
GLORIOUS DAY, ISN'T IT?
WHOOPEE!
IF YA ASK ME, I THINK THAT WHOLE GENERATION IS OFF ITS ROCKER!

AND, NOT TOO LONG AFTER, IN A QUIET FOREST HILLS APARTMENT HOUSE...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I DROPPED BY TO SEE AUNT MAY.
IT'LL MAKE THAT SWEET OLD LADY'S DAY TO HAVE A CHANCE TO FUSS OVER ME! SHE'S ALWAYS...
EH? LOOKS LIKE A NOTE ON HER DOOR!


"DEAR ANNA; SORRY TO LEAVE EARLY, BUT I'D FORGOTTEN THE DEMONSTRATION WE HAD PLANNED AT CITY HALL. I'LL TRY TO BE HOME BEFORE DARK. LOVE, MAY. P.S. DON'T FORGET YOUR RUBBERS IF YOU GO OUT. IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN."
Dear Anna
Sorry to leave but I'd forgotte
Monstration we h
be home before
love
May
P.S. Don't forget yo
YEP, SHE IS ONE-OF-A-KIND, THAT LADY!


IT TAKES OUR HERO 45 MINUTES TO CATCH THE "E" TRAIN BACK INTO MANHATTAN, AND DOWN TO CITY HALL, WHERE...
I STILL CAN'T GET OVER THIS NEW MILITANT ATTITUDE AUNT MAY HAS ACQUIRED LATELY.
WITH HER HISTORY OF HEART TROUBLE, I WORRY ABOUT WHAT SHE'S LIABLE TO DO TO HERSELF--

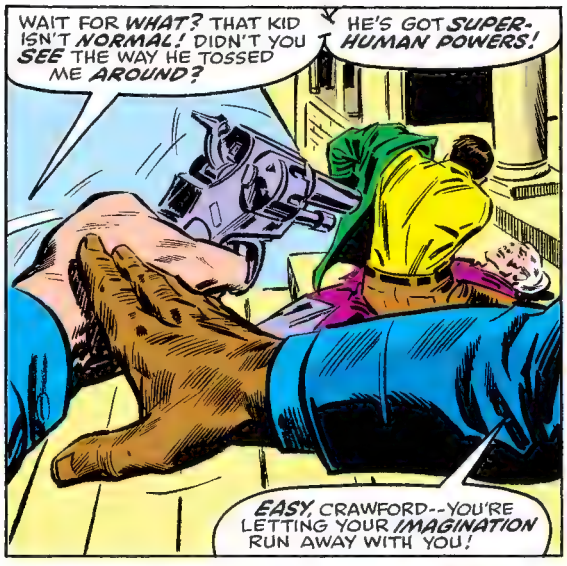
--BUT SO LONG AS IT SEEMS TO BE STRENGTHENING HER SOMEHOW, I'M NOT GOING TO COMPLAIN!
MAN, THERE'S QUITE A CROWD HERE! I HOPE I CAN FIND HER AMONG ALL THESE...
UH-OH.
OLD
PEOPLE
HAVE RIG


YOUNG MAN, STAND ASIDE! I'M GOING TO TAKE OUR PETITION TO THE MAYOR!
I'M VERY SORRY, MA'AM-- BUT HE'S IN CONFERENCE RIGHT NOW! I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO GO IN THERE!
SWEET HEAVEN, WHAT'S AUNT MAY DOING?

YOUNG MAN, DON'T YOU DARE ORDER ME ABOUT LIKE THAT! I'M OLD ENOUGH TO BE YOUR SISTER!
WAK!
PLEASE, MA'AM-- I'M ONLY DOING MY JOB!
AND I'M ONLY DOING MINE! NOW STEP ASIDE!!
I'M SORRY, MA'AM-- BUT I CAN'T!

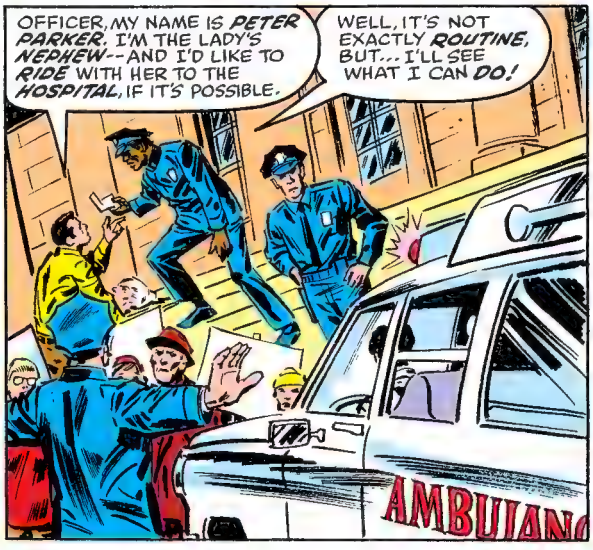
AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP BATTERING ME, I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO DISARM YOU!
YOUNG MAN, I'M WARNING YOU! I...
UUNNHH!!

MA'AM? MA'AM, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
AUNT MAY?
PLEASE, MA'AM, TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG? IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP?
IT'S MY HEART... THE STRAIN... IT WAS TOO MUCH... TOO MUCH...
AUNT MAY!!
HOLD ON, AUNT MAY-- I'M COMING!!
YOU--TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF OF HER! YOU'RE THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS!
EASY, SON-- I'M ONLY TRYING TO HELP--!
I SAID-- LEAVE-- HER-- ALONE!!
HUNH?!?
OKAY, THAT DOES IT! I'M TIRED OF BEING PUSHED AROUND!
YOU PUT YOUR HANDS UP, FELLA--AND I MEAN NOW!!
CRAWFORD-- WAIT!


WAIT FOR WHAT? THAT KID ISN'T NORMAL! DIDN'T YOU SEE THE WAY HE TOSSED ME AROUND?
HE'S GOT SUPER-HUMAN POWERS!
EASY, CRAWFORD--YOU'RE LETTING YOUR IMAGINATION RUN AWAY WITH YOU!

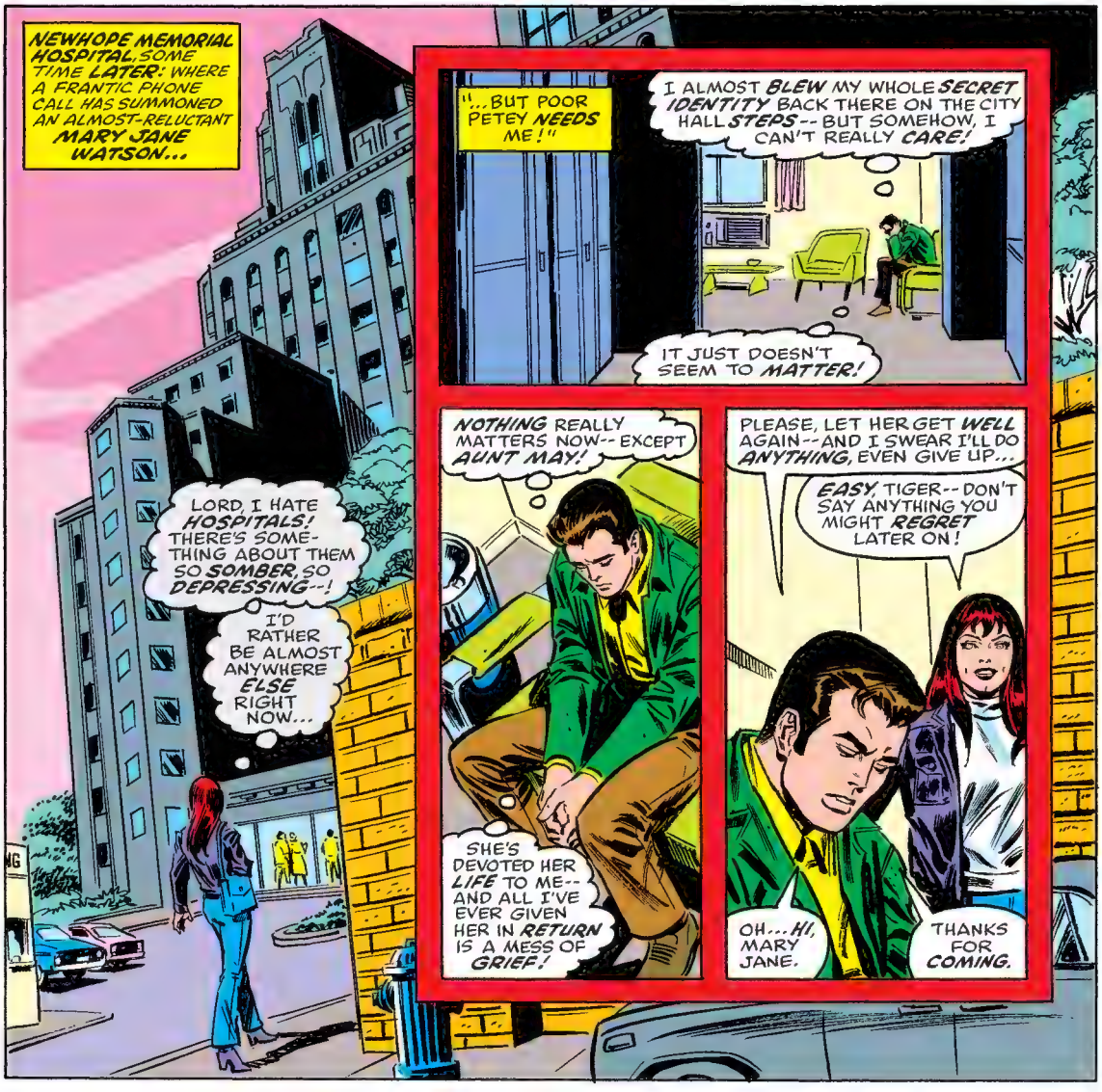
I'VE HEARD DOZENS OF STORIES ABOUT PEOPLE WHO ACCOMPLISHED SEEMING MIRACLES IN TIMES OF EXTREME STRESS!
I DON'T SEE ANY SUPER-HUMAN FIEND THERE, BUDDY--I JUST SEE A BOY WHO CARES ABOUT HIS AUNT!
YEAH, SARGE...I GUESS MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'LL GIVE THE KID A BREAK.

P-PETER..? IS THAT...YOU? I...I'M SORRY, PETER...I DIDN'T MEAN... TO UPSET YOU...
HUSH, AUNT MAY. YOU JUST LIE THERE--AND TRY NOT TO WORRY.
I'M GOING TO TAKE CARE OF YOU... I SWEAR IT!

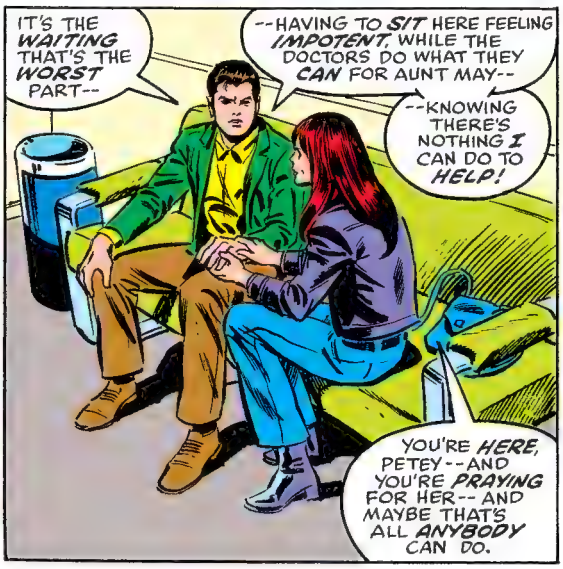

OFFICER, MY NAME IS PETER PARKER. I'M THE LADY'S NEPHEW--AND I'D LIKE TO RIDE WITH HER TO THE HOSPITAL, IF IT'S POSSIBLE.
WELL, IT'S NOT EXACTLY ROUTINE, BUT... I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO!
AMBULANC

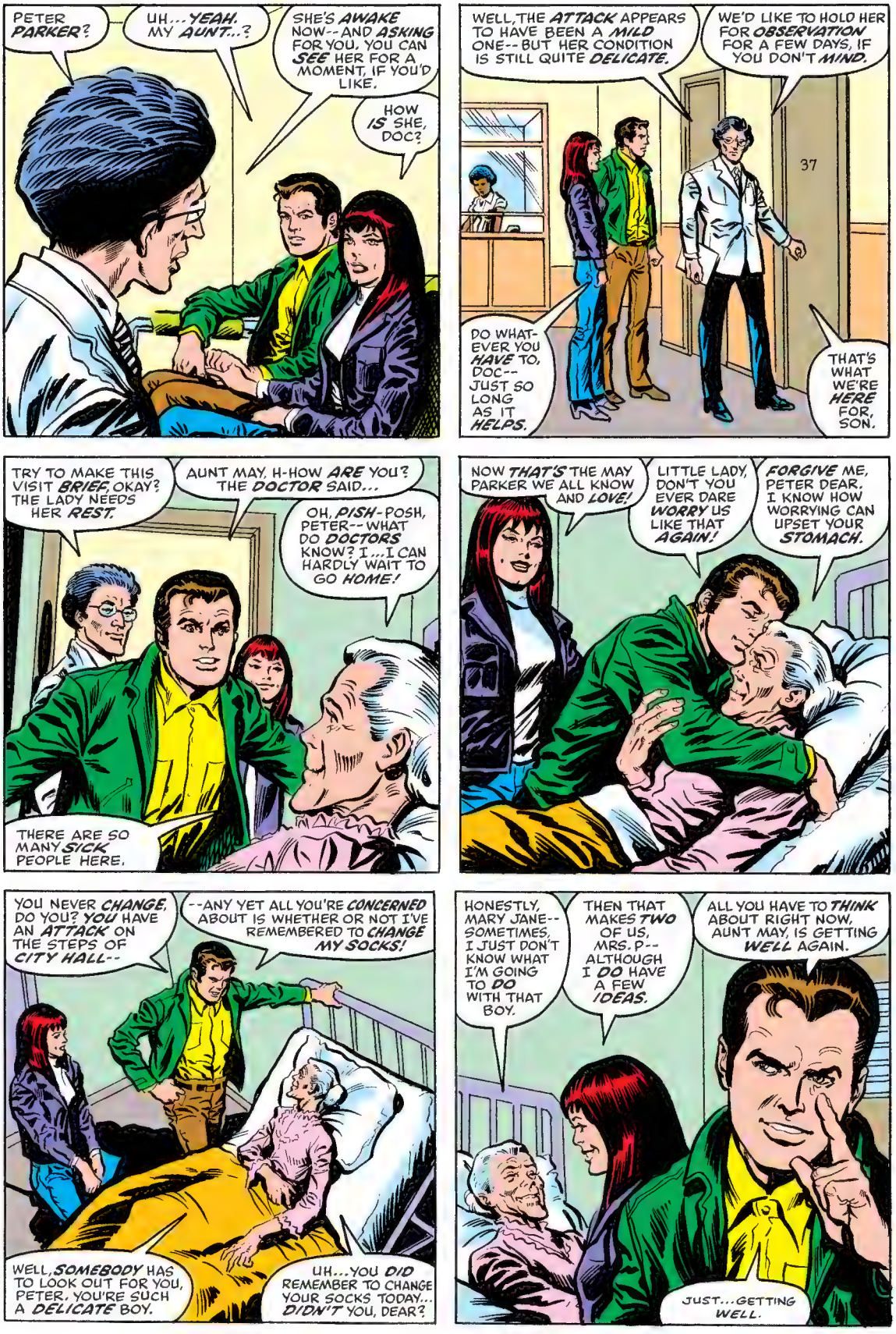
YOU JUST HANG IN THERE, AUNT MAY. YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, DO YOU HEAR ME?
IF THERE'S ANY JUSTICE IN THIS WORLD...YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE!
I'LL...ALWAYS BE FINE, PETER...SO LONG AS I...HAVE YOU...

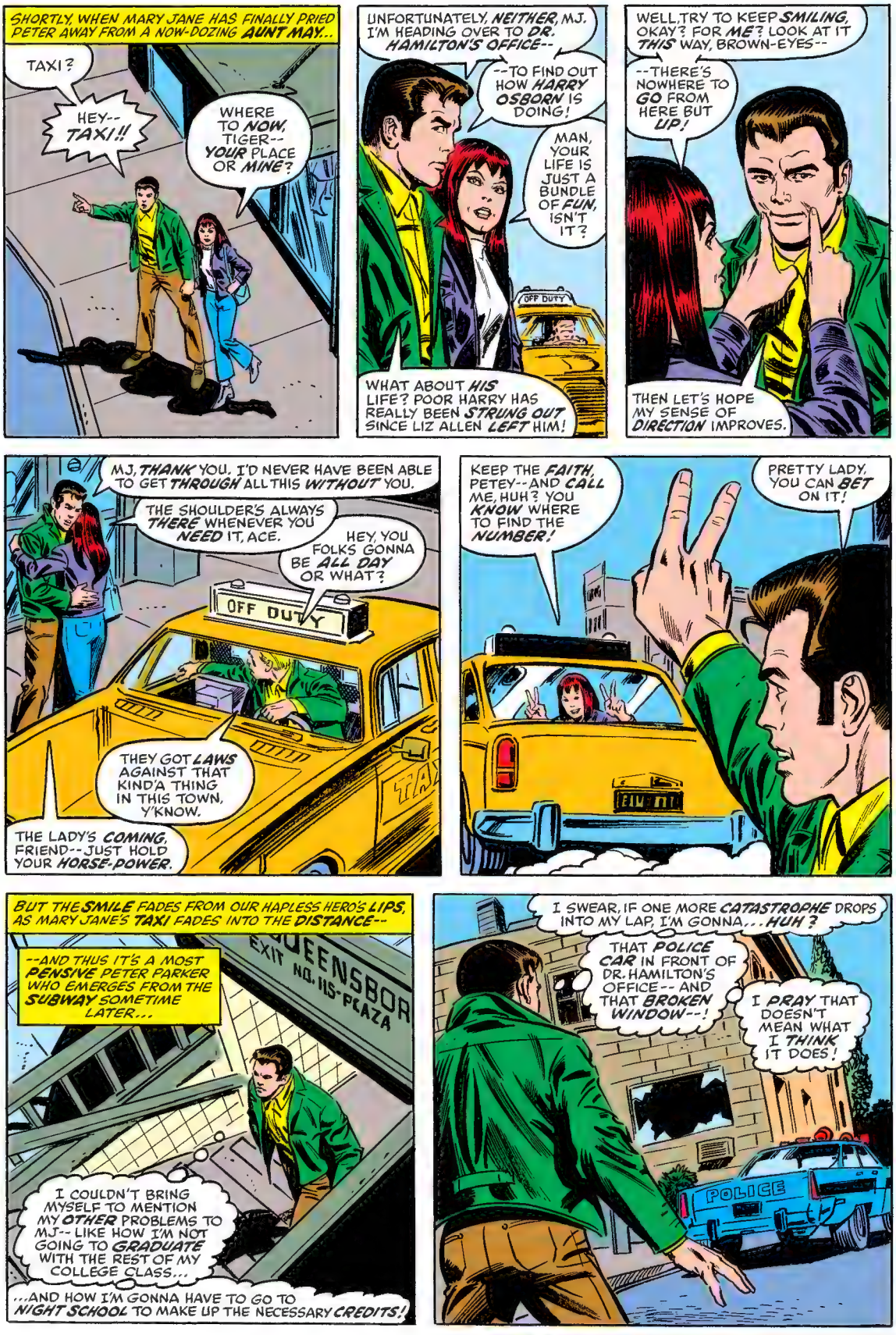
LORD, SARGE, I FEEL SO RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS! AS LONG AS I LIVE, I'M GOING TO REMEMBER THE LOOK OF PAIN ON THAT OLD LADY'S FACE!
DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU, CRAWFORD--IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! THIS SORT OF THING COMES WITH THE TERRITORY!
SOMETIMES, THIS IS JUST A DIRTY JOB.
AMBULANCE
PD


NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, SOME TIME LATER: WHERE A FRANTIC PHONE CALL HAS SUMMONED AN ALMOST-RELUCTANT MARY JANE WATSON...
LORD, I HATE HOSPITALS! THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THEM SO SOMBER, SO DEPRESSING--!
I'D RATHER BE ALMOST ANYWHERE ELSE RIGHT NOW...
"...BUT POOR PETEY NEEDS ME!"
I ALMOST BLEW MY WHOLE SECRET IDENTITY BACK THERE ON THE CITY HALL STEPS -- BUT SOMEHOW, I CAN'T REALLY CARE!
IT JUST DOESN'T SEEM TO MATTER!
NOTHING REALLY MATTERS NOW -- EXCEPT AUNT MAY!
SHE'S DEVOTED HER LIFE TO ME -- AND ALL I'VE EVER GIVEN HER IN RETURN IS A MESS OF GRIEF!
PLEASE, LET HER GET WELL AGAIN -- AND I SWEAR I'LL DO ANYTHING, EVEN GIVE UP...
EASY, TIGER -- DON'T SAY ANYTHING YOU MIGHT REGRET LATER ON!
OH... HI, MARY JANE.
THANKS FOR COMING.

HEY, DO YOU THINK I'D LET MY FAVORITE BROWN-EYED BOOKWORM GO THROUGH THIS ALONE?
I KNOW HOW HARD THIS ALL MUST BE FOR YOU -- AND I'M HERE TO LEND SOME MORAL SUPPORT.
I APPRECIATE THAT, PRETTY LADY, MORE THAN YOU COULD EVER KNOW!


IT'S THE WAITING THAT'S THE WORST PART --
--HAVING TO SIT HERE FEELING IMPOTENT, WHILE THE DOCTORS DO WHAT THEY CAN FOR AUNT MAY --
--KNOWING THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO HELP!
YOU'RE HERE, PETEY -- AND YOU'RE PRAYING FOR HER -- AND MAYBE THAT'S ALL ANYBODY CAN DO.


PETER PARKER?
UH... YEAH. MY AUNT...?
SHE'S AWAKE NOW--AND ASKING FOR YOU. YOU CAN SEE HER FOR A MOMENT, IF YOU'D LIKE.
HOW IS SHE, DOC?
WELL, THE ATTACK APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A MILD ONE--BUT HER CONDITION IS STILL QUITE DELICATE.
WE'D LIKE TO HOLD HER FOR OBSERVATION FOR A FEW DAYS, IF YOU DON'T MIND.
37
DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO, DOC--JUST SO LONG AS IT HELPS.
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR, SON.
TRY TO MAKE THIS VISIT BRIEF, OKAY? THE LADY NEEDS HER REST.
AUNT MAY, H-HOW ARE YOU? THE DOCTOR SAID...
OH, PISH-POSH, PETER--WHAT DO DOCTORS KNOW? I...I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO GO HOME!
THERE ARE SO MANY SICK PEOPLE HERE.
NOW THAT'S THE MAY PARKER WE ALL KNOW AND LOVE!
LITTLE LADY, DON'T YOU EVER DARE WORRY US LIKE THAT AGAIN!
FORGIVE ME, PETER DEAR. I KNOW HOW WORRYING CAN UPSET YOUR STOMACH.
YOU NEVER CHANGE, DO YOU? YOU HAVE AN ATTACK ON THE STEPS OF CITY HALL--
--ANY YET ALL YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT IS WHETHER OR NOT I'VE REMEMBERED TO CHANGE MY SOCKS!
WELL, SOMEBODY HAS TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU, PETER. YOU'RE SUCH A DELICATE BOY.
UH...YOU DID REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR SOCKS TODAY... DIDN'T YOU, DEAR?
HONESTLY, MARY JANE--SOMETIMES, I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH THAT BOY.
THEN THAT MAKES TWO OF US, MRS. P--ALTHOUGH I DO HAVE A FEW IDEAS.
ALL YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT RIGHT NOW, AUNT MAY, IS GETTING WELL AGAIN.
JUST...GETTING WELL.

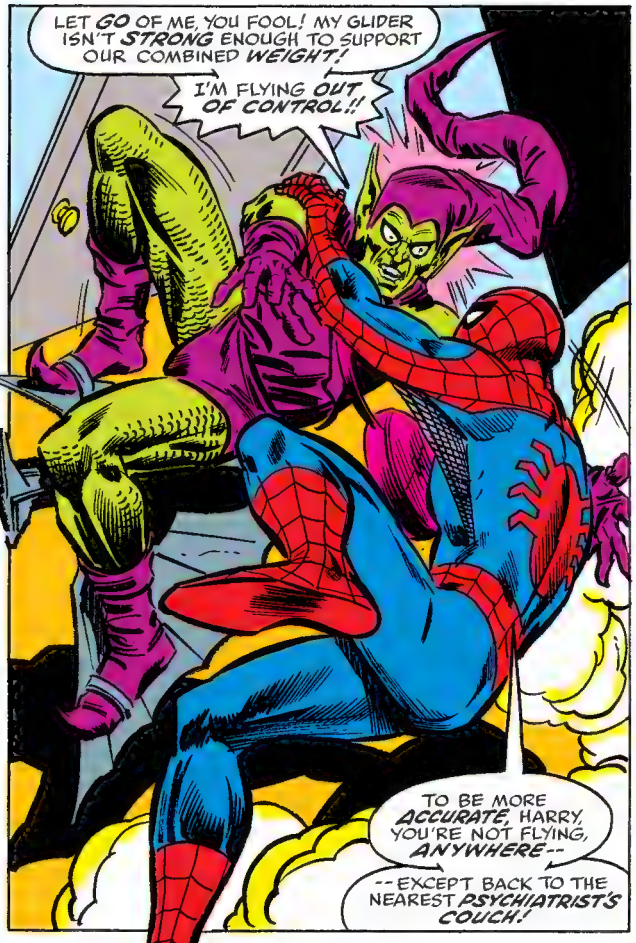

SHORTLY, WHEN MARY JANE HAS FINALLY PRIED PETER AWAY FROM A NOW-DOZING AUNT MAY...
TAXI?
HEY-- TAXI!!
WHERE TO NOW, TIGER-- YOUR PLACE OR MINE?
UNFORTUNATELY, NEITHER, MJ. I'M HEADING OVER TO DR. HAMILTON'S OFFICE--
--TO FIND OUT HOW HARRY OSBORN IS DOING!
MAN, YOUR LIFE IS JUST A BUNDLE OF FUN, ISN'T IT?
OFF DUTY
WHAT ABOUT HIS LIFE? POOR HARRY HAS REALLY BEEN STRUNG OUT SINCE LIZ ALLEN LEFT HIM!
WELL, TRY TO KEEP SMILING, OKAY? FOR ME? LOOK AT IT THIS WAY, BROWN-EYES--
--THERE'S NOWHERE TO GO FROM HERE BUT UP!
THEN LET'S HOPE MY SENSE OF DIRECTION IMPROVES.
MJ, THANK YOU. I'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET THROUGH ALL THIS WITHOUT YOU.
THE SHOULDER'S ALWAYS THERE WHENEVER YOU NEED IT, ACE.
HEY, YOU FOLKS GONNA BE ALL DAY OR WHAT?
OFF DUTY
THEY GOT LAWS AGAINST THAT KIND'A THING IN THIS TOWN, Y'KNOW.
THE LADY'S COMING, FRIEND-- JUST HOLD YOUR HORSE-POWER.
KEEP THE FAITH, PETEY-- AND CALL ME, HUH? YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE NUMBER!
PRETTY LADY, YOU CAN BET ON IT!
BUT THE SMILE FADES FROM OUR HAPLESS HERO'S LIPS, AS MARY JANE'S TAXI FADES INTO THE DISTANCE--
--AND THUS IT'S A MOST PENSIVE PETER PARKER WHO EMERGES FROM THE SUBWAY SOMETIME LATER...
QUEENSBOR
EXIT NO. 11S PLAZA
I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO MENTION MY OTHER PROBLEMS TO MJ-- LIKE HOW I'M NOT GOING TO GRADUATE WITH THE REST OF MY COLLEGE CLASS...
...AND HOW I'M GONNA HAVE TO GO TO NIGHT SCHOOL TO MAKE UP THE NECESSARY CREDITS!
I SWEAR, IF ONE MORE CATASTROPHE DROPS INTO MY LAP, I'M GONNA... HUH?
THAT POLICE CAR IN FRONT OF DR. HAMILTON'S OFFICE-- AND THAT BROKEN WINDOW--!
I PRAY THAT DOESN'T MEAN WHAT I THINK IT DOES!
POLICE

BUT WHEN PETER HESITANTLY ENTERS THE GOOD DOCTOR'S OFFICE...
LORD, THIS PLACE IS A SHAMBLES!
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO FIND OUT, FRIEND!
WHEN HAMILTON'S SECRETARY ARRIVED THIS MORNING, SHE FOUND THE OFFICE LIKE THIS--AND THE DOCTOR'S HALF-SMOKED PIPE STILL ON THE FLOOR!
NEAR AS WE CAN FIGURE IT, ONE OF HIS PATIENTS WENT OFF THE DEEP END--AND DID SOMETHING TO HIM!
AND FROM THE WAY MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING--I'M AFRAID I KNOW WHICH PATIENT IT WAS!
HEY, WHY AM I TELLING YOU ALL THIS? WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
YOU'RE NOT EVEN SUPPOSED TO BE IN HERE!
WELL, I'M WAITING FELLA! I WANT SOME ANSWERS--
--AND I WANT 'EM NOW!!
I'D--AH--REALLY LIKE TO--ER--HELP YOU, OFFICER...
...BUT I--UH--THINK I LEFT MY RHINOCEROS DOUBLE-PARKED!
HEY--COME BACK HERE, MISTER!
I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU THINK YOU'RE RUNNING TO, FELLA, BUT YOU'LL NEVER OUTRUN... HUH?
I DON'T GET IT! HE WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME, JUST A FEW FEET AHEAD--
--SO WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
HE JUST COULDN'T HAVE DISAPPEARED...
...COULD HE?
IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT, I'VE GOTTA GET TO FAR ROCKAWAY--AND FAST!!

IN WHICH CASE, WHY DON'T WE PRE-CEDE OUR HERO THERE--AND LOOK IN ON A CERTAIN FLASH THOMPSON...
7E
SOON AS I PUT THESE GROCERIES AWAY, I'LL HEAD FOR MAN-HATTAN--
--AND SEE HOW HARRY IS MAKING OUT! MY ROLLICKIN' ROOMMATE HAS BEEN... HUH?
SOMETHING'S BLOCKING THE DOOR... HEY, IT'S FURNITURE!
NOW HOW DID THAT GET THERE?
WELL, I CAN FIGURE THAT OUT AFTER I GET IT OUTTA MY WAY, AND THEN...
BWHUMP!
SWEET HEAVEN!
SKRASH!
WH-WHAT HAPPENED TO THIS PLACE? IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN BOMBED!
IF THIS IS SOMEHOW HARRY'S DOING, I'LL...
NO--IT'S IMPOSSIBLE--!
THAT GIZMO ON THE FLOOR--IT'S...
7E
IT IS INDEED THE UNIQUE BAT-GLIDER, LITTLE MAN!
AND IT BELONGS, NOT TO THE SIMPERING HARRY OSBORN--
SLAM!
--BUT TO THE GREEN GOBLIN!!

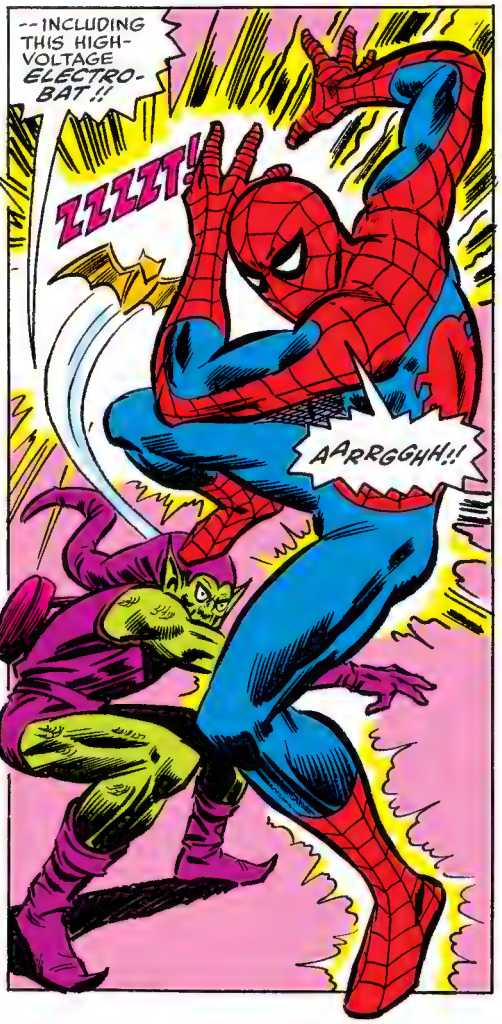
HARRY OSBORN HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE PICTURE, THOMPSON--
--AND IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, YOU'LL SOON FOLLOW HIM!
LOOK, YOU CAN STUFF THE MELODRAMATICS, FRIEND!
I KNOW YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE THE GREEN GOBLIN IN THE PAST, HARRY--
--BUT WEARING THAT COCKAMAMIE COSTUME DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO DEVASTATE OUR APARTMENT!
ZAK!
NOW CALM DOWN BEFORE I... AARRGGHH!!
THE FOOL! I WARNED HIM--
--AND NOW HE HAS PAID THE PRICE!
THERE IS NOTHING MORE TO BE GAINED HERE--
--THUS I'D BEST TAKE MY LEAVE BEFORE THE DOLT RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS!
NOT A BAD IDEA, HARRY-- BUT I'M AFRAID I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT!
SPIDER-MAN?!?
CURSE YOU, WEB-SLINGER-- I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED TO FIND ME HERE...

...BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
YIKES!
I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN THE POWERS THAT COSTUME POSSESSES, HARRY--
ZAK!
--BUT DON'T THINK THEY'LL HELP YOU GET PAST ME--
--'CAUSE THEY WON'T!
ZAK!
MY GOBLIN-SPARKS ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU THINK, INSECT--
--BUT I HAVE MORE URGENT MATTERS THAN YOUR DEATH TO CONCERN ME NOW!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE IN MIND, OL' BUDDY--
--BUT THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO LET YOU FOLLOW IN YOUR FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS!
YOU NEED PROFESSIONAL HELP, HARRY--
NO!!
--AND I'M GOING TO SEE THAT YOU GET IT!!


LET GO OF ME, YOU FOOL! MY GLIDER ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO SUPPORT OUR COMBINED WEIGHT!
I'M FLYING OUT OF CONTROL!!
TO BE MORE ACCURATE, HARRY, YOU'RE NOT FLYING, ANYWHERE--
--EXCEPT BACK TO THE NEAREST PSYCHIATRIST'S COUCH!

"BLAST YOU, INSECT--STOP REMINDING ME OF THAT," THE GOBLIN SNARLS, AS THE BAT-GLIDER HURTLES ACROSS THE ROOM--
--TO SMASH, AT LENGTH, INTO THE OPPOSITE WALL, WITH BONE-JARRING FURY!
SKROOM!

LOOKS LIKE YOUR JOYRIDE IS OVER, HARRY! NOW WHY DON'T YOU TAKE OFF THAT STUPID MASK--AND GIVE ME YOUR HAND?
MY GLIDER ISN'T MY ONLY WEAPON, YOU WALL-CRAWLING CRETIN!
THE GREEN GOBLIN'S BAG OF TRICKS CONTAINS MANY SURPRISES--


--INCLUDING THIS HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRO-BAT!!
ZZZZT!
AARRGGHH!!

YOU'RE STILL STANDING?! I'M IMPRESSED!
YOUR STAMINA IS TRULY REMARKABLE, WEB-SLINGER!
THWAK!
THWIP!
EH?
YEAH... BUT IT'S NOTHING...
...COMPARED TO MY PERSISTENCE!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?
SOMETHING I DIDN'T WANT TO DO, HARRY--
--BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, YOU'VE LEFT ME NO CHOICE!
WHUMP!
BOK!
UUNNHH!!
YOU'RE JUST LUCKY WE'RE FRIENDS, HARRY-- OR, AFTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME, I WOULDN'T BE PULLING MY PUNCH!!
NOW, ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE UP THIS INSANITY--AND COME ALONG QUIETLY?
NEVER!!
I'LL KILL YOU FOR THIS HUMILIATION DO YOU HEAR ME?
I'LL KILL YOU!!
IN THAT CASE, THIS IS GOING TO HURT YOU A WHOLE LOT MORE THAN IT HURTS ME!
UUNNFF!!
POW!

C'MON, HARRY--GIVE IT UP! LOSING LIZ ALLEN ISN'T THE END OF THE WORLD!
I ALREADY HAVE A NEW LIFE, INSECT--
YOU CAN MAKE A NEW LIFE FOR YOURSELF, IF YOU TRY!
--AND I WON'T LET YOU TAKE IT FROM ME!
UUNNHH...
IF YOU'RE SO CONCERNED ABOUT SAVING YOUR FRIENDS, MY DEAR WEB-SLINGER--
--TRY SAVING FLASH THOMPSON!!!
LORD--NO! HE'S DOING IT AGAIN-- JUST LIKE HE DID IT TO GWEN STACY--!
THE GREEN GOBLIN IS MURDERING SOMEBODY NEAR TO ME!!
AND THERE'S NO WAY ON EARTH YOU CAN SAVE HIM!!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE RETURN OF YET ANOTHER OLD FOE IN THE SHOCKER WE CALL...

"GOBLIN IN THE MIDDLE!"

NEED WE SAY BE HERE?

SPIDER-MAN
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
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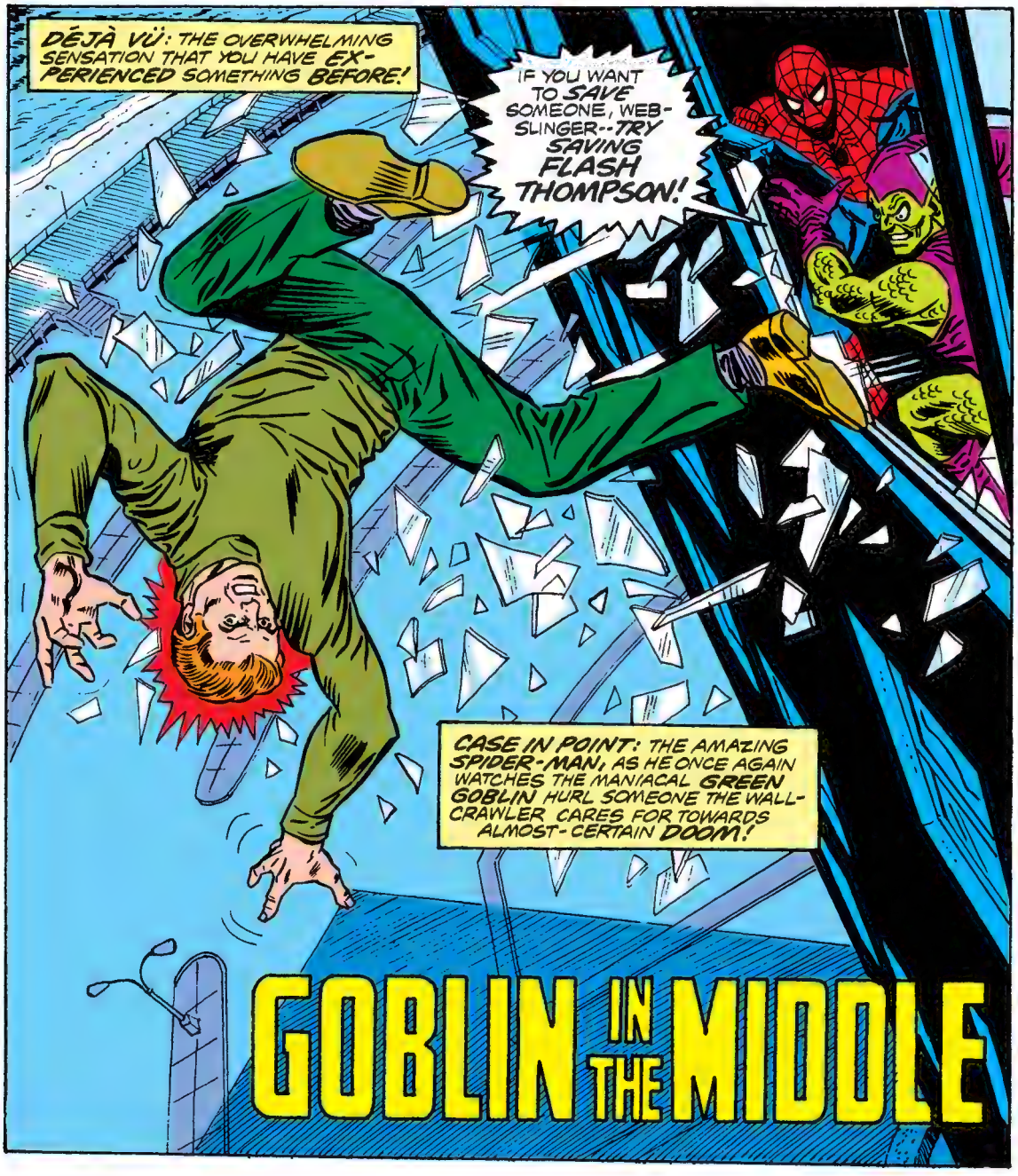
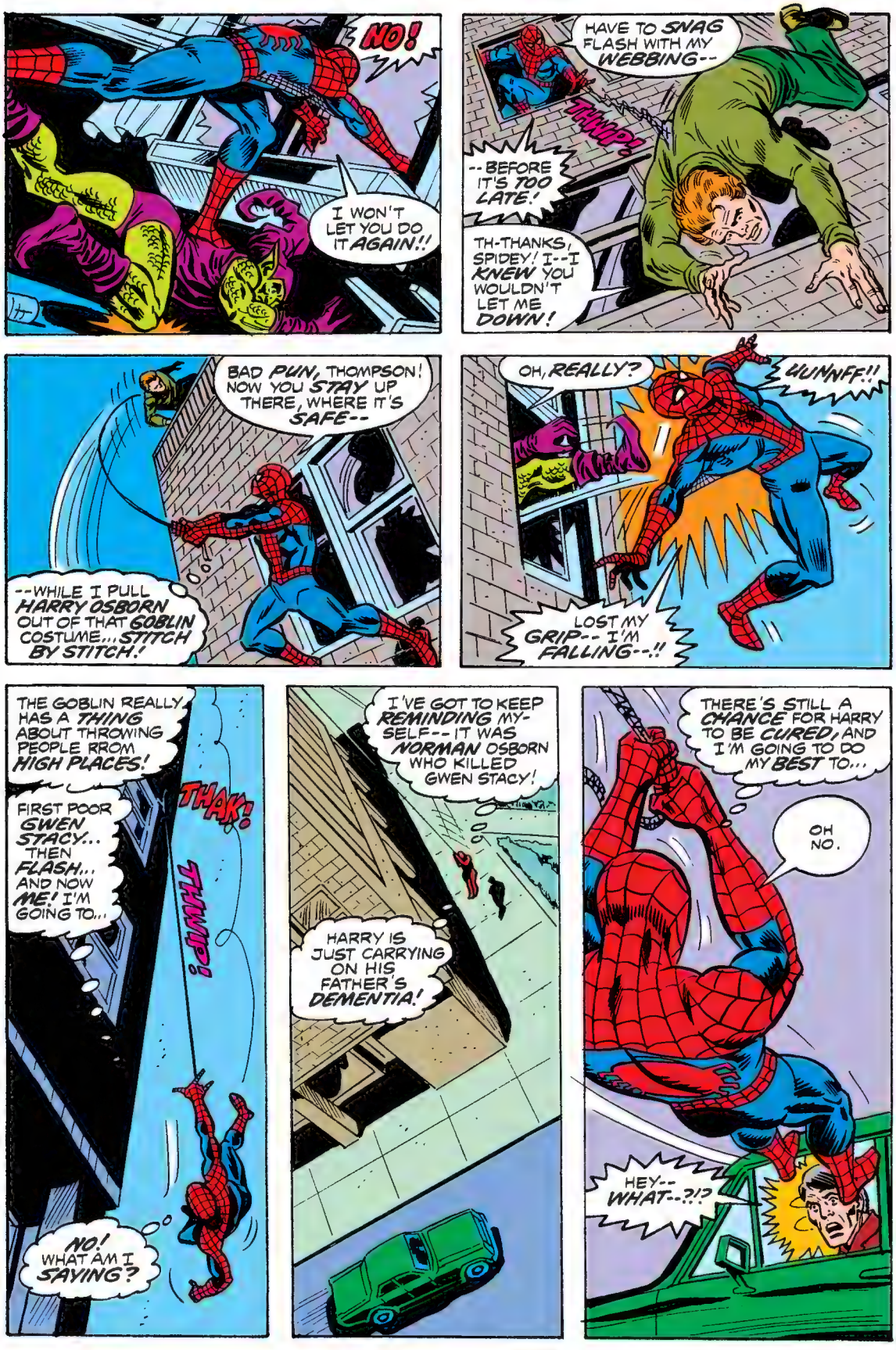
STAND ASIDE, FOOLS--THE GREEN GOBLIN HAS RETURNED!
HOW CAN WE STOP HIM?!?
FORGET THE GOBLIN! HOW ARE WE GONNA STOP--HIM?!?

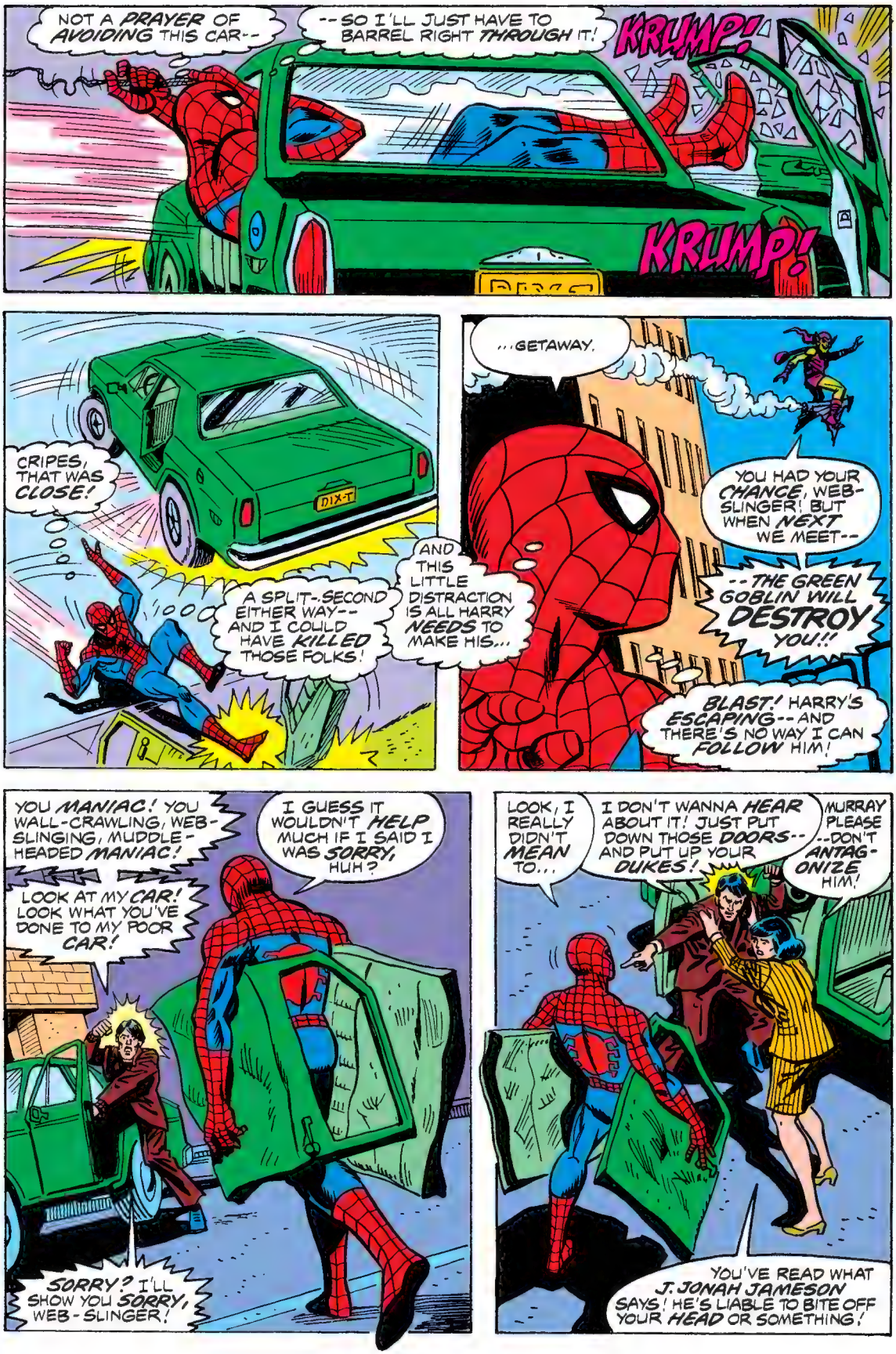
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

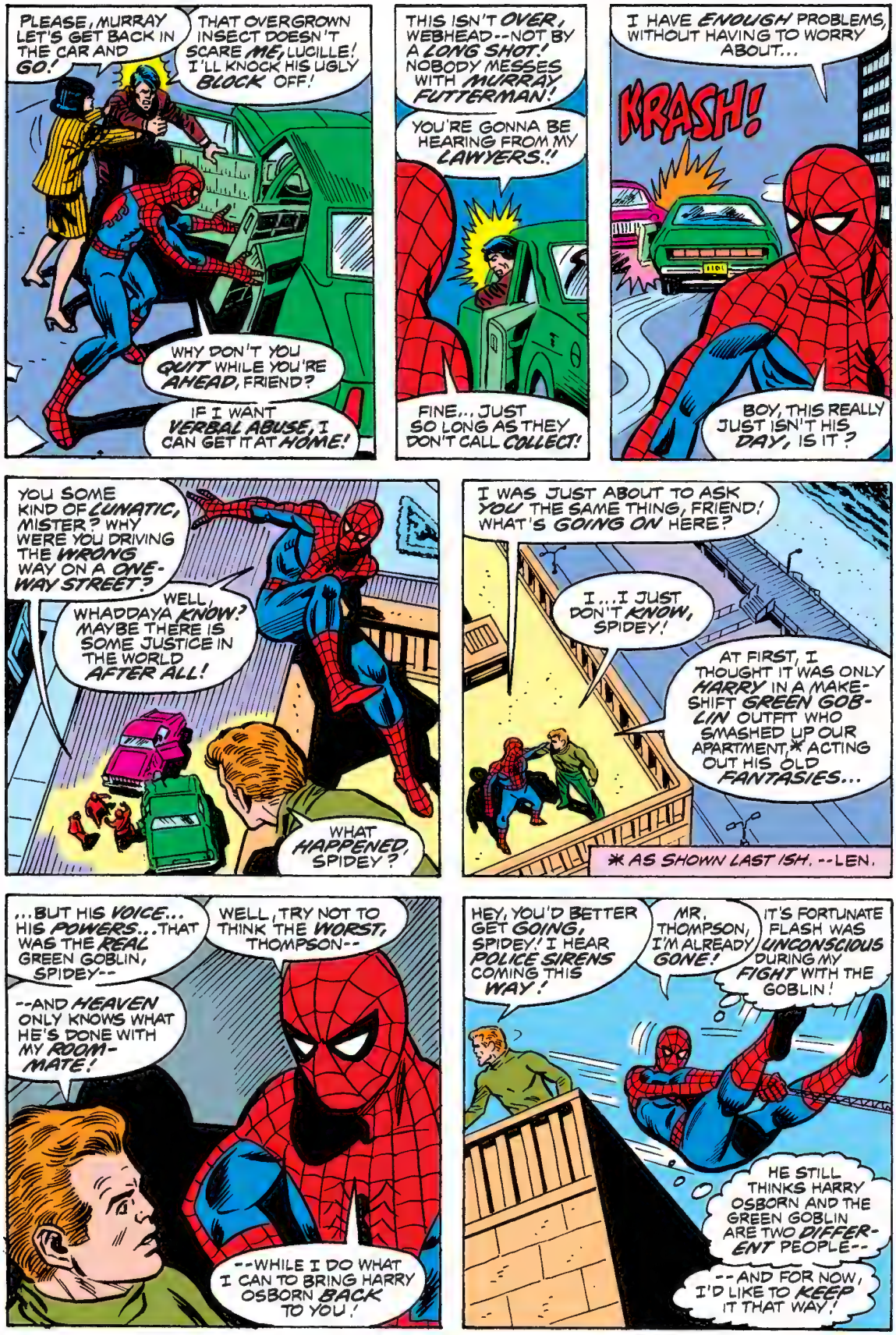
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

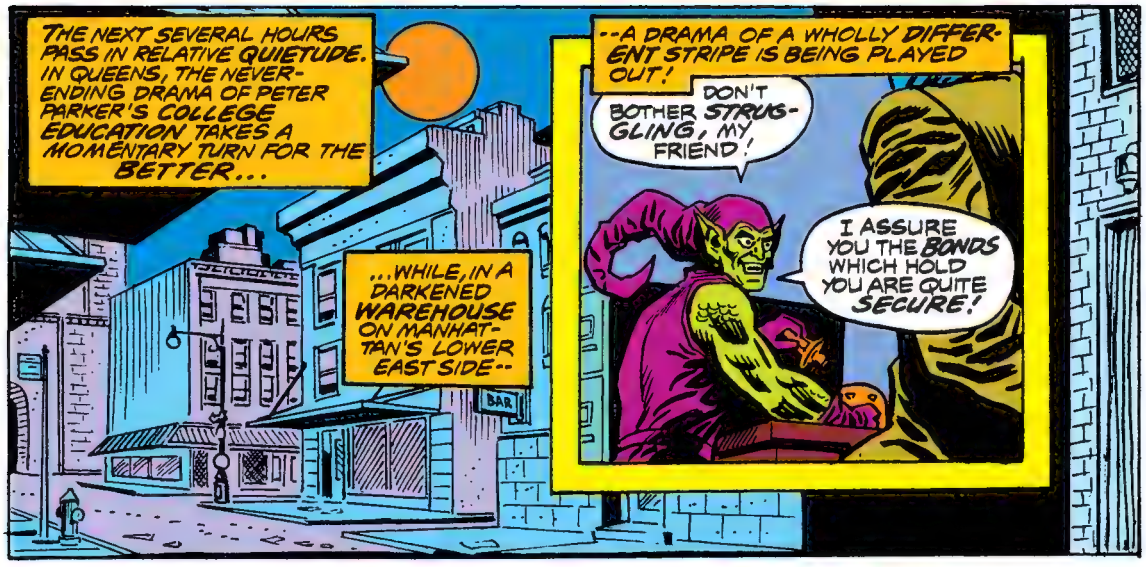
LEN WEIN WRITER/EDITOR | ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR | MIKE ESPOSITO INKER | GLYNIS WEIN colorist | JOHN COSTANZA letterer


DÉJÀ VÜ: THE OVERWHELMING SENSATION THAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED SOMETHING BEFORE!
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE SOMEONE, WEB-SLINGER--TRY SAVING FLASH THOMPSON!
CASE IN POINT: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, AS HE ONCE AGAIN WATCHES THE MANIACAL GREEN GOBLIN HURL SOMEONE THE WALL-CRAWLER CARES FOR TOWARDS ALMOST-CERTAIN DOOM!
GOBLIN IN THE MIDDLE


NO!
I WON'T LET YOU DO IT AGAIN!!
HAVE TO SNAG FLASH WITH MY WEBBING--
THWIP!
--BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
TH-THANKS, SPIDEY! I--I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T LET ME DOWN!
BAD PUN, THOMPSON! NOW YOU STAY UP THERE, WHERE IT'S SAFE--
--WHILE I PULL HARRY OSBORN OUT OF THAT GOBLIN COSTUME... STITCH BY STITCH!
OH, REALLY?
UUNNFF!!
LOST MY GRIP-- I'M FALLING--!!
THE GOBLIN REALLY HAS A THING ABOUT THROWING PEOPLE RROM HIGH PLACES!
FIRST POOR GWEN STACY... THEN FLASH... AND NOW ME! I'M GOING TO...
THAK!
THWIP!
NO! WHAT AM I SAYING?
I'VE GOT TO KEEP REMINDING MY-SELF-- IT WAS NORMAN OSBORN WHO KILLED GWEN STACY!
HARRY IS JUST CARRYING ON HIS FATHER'S DEMENTIA!
THERE'S STILL A CHANCE FOR HARRY TO BE CURED, AND I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST TO...
OH NO.
HEY-- WHAT--?!?

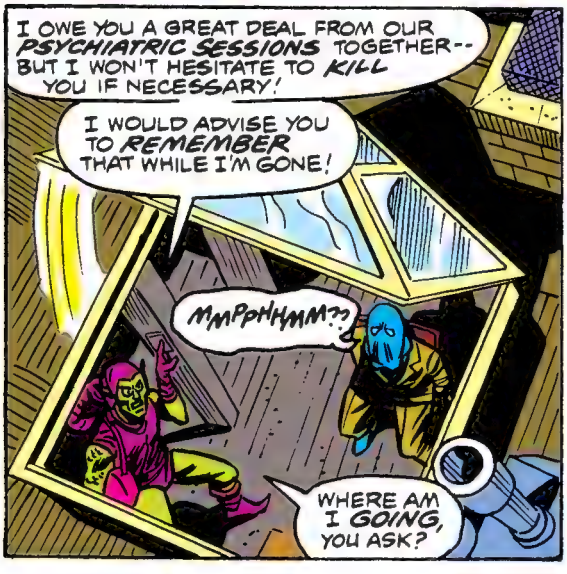

NOT A PRAYER OF AVOIDING THIS CAR--
--SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO BARREL RIGHT THROUGH IT!
KRUMP!
KRUMP!
CRIPES, THAT WAS CLOSE!
DIX-T
A SPLIT-SECOND EITHER WAY-- AND I COULD HAVE KILLED THOSE FOLKS!
AND THIS LITTLE DISTRACTION IS ALL HARRY NEEDS TO MAKE HIS...
...GETAWAY.
YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE, WEB-SLINGER! BUT WHEN NEXT WE MEET--
--THE GREEN GOBLIN WILL DESTROY YOU!!
BLAST! HARRY'S ESCAPING-- AND THERE'S NO WAY I CAN FOLLOW HIM!
YOU MANIAC! YOU WALL-CRAWLING, WEB-SLINGING, MUDDLE-HEADED MANIAC!
I GUESS IT WOULDN'T HELP MUCH IF I SAID I WAS SORRY, HUH?
LOOK AT MY CAR! LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO MY POOR CAR!
SORRY? I'LL SHOW YOU SORRY, WEB-SLINGER!
LOOK, I REALLY DIDN'T MEAN TO...
I DON'T WANNA HEAR ABOUT IT! JUST PUT DOWN THOSE DOORS-- AND PUT UP YOUR DUKES!
MURRAY PLEASE --DON'T ANTAG-ONIZE HIM!
YOU'VE READ WHAT J. JONAH JAMESON SAYS! HE'S LIABLE TO BITE OFF YOUR HEAD OR SOMETHING!


PLEASE, MURRAY LET'S GET BACK IN THE CAR AND GO!
THAT OVERGROWN INSECT DOESN'T SCARE ME, LUCILLE! I'LL KNOCK HIS UGLY BLOCK OFF!
WHY DON'T YOU QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD, FRIEND?
IF I WANT VERBAL ABUSE, I CAN GET IT AT HOME!
THIS ISN'T OVER, WEBHEAD--NOT BY A LONG SHOT! NOBODY MESSES WITH MURRAY FUTTERMAN!
YOU'RE GONNA BE HEARING FROM MY LAWYERS!!
FINE... JUST SO LONG AS THEY DON'T CALL COLLECT!
I HAVE ENOUGH PROBLEMS, WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT...
KRASH!
BOY, THIS REALLY JUST ISN'T HIS DAY, IS IT?
YOU SOME KIND OF LUNATIC, MISTER? WHY WERE YOU DRIVING THE WRONG WAY ON A ONE-WAY STREET?
WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW? MAYBE THERE IS SOME JUSTICE IN THE WORLD AFTER ALL!
WHAT HAPPENED, SPIDEY?
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME THING, FRIEND! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I...I JUST DON'T KNOW, SPIDEY!
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT IT WAS ONLY HARRY IN A MAKE-SHIFT GREEN GOBLIN OUTFIT WHO SMASHED UP OUR APARTMENT,* ACTING OUT HIS OLD FANTASIES...
* AS SHOWN LAST ISH. --LEN.
...BUT HIS VOICE... HIS POWERS...THAT WAS THE REAL GREEN GOBLIN, SPIDEY--
WELL, TRY NOT TO THINK THE WORST, THOMPSON--
--AND HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS WHAT HE'S DONE WITH MY ROOM-MATE!
--WHILE I DO WHAT I CAN TO BRING HARRY OSBORN BACK TO YOU!
HEY, YOU'D BETTER GET GOING, SPIDEY! I HEAR POLICE SIRENS COMING THIS WAY!
MR. THOMPSON, I'M ALREADY GONE!
IT'S FORTUNATE FLASH WAS UNCONSCIOUS DURING MY FIGHT WITH THE GOBLIN!
HE STILL THINKS HARRY OSBORN AND THE GREEN GOBLIN ARE TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE--
--AND FOR NOW, I'D LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!


THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS PASS IN RELATIVE QUIETUDE. IN QUEENS, THE NEVER-ENDING DRAMA OF PETER PARKER'S COLLEGE EDUCATION TAKES A MOMENTARY TURN FOR THE BETTER...
...WHILE, IN A DARKENED WAREHOUSE ON MANHATTAN'S LOWER EAST SIDE--
BAR
--A DRAMA OF A WHOLLY DIFFERENT STRIPE IS BEING PLAYED OUT!
DON'T BOTHER STRUGGLING, MY FRIEND!
I ASSURE YOU THE BONDS WHICH HOLD YOU ARE QUITE SECURE!

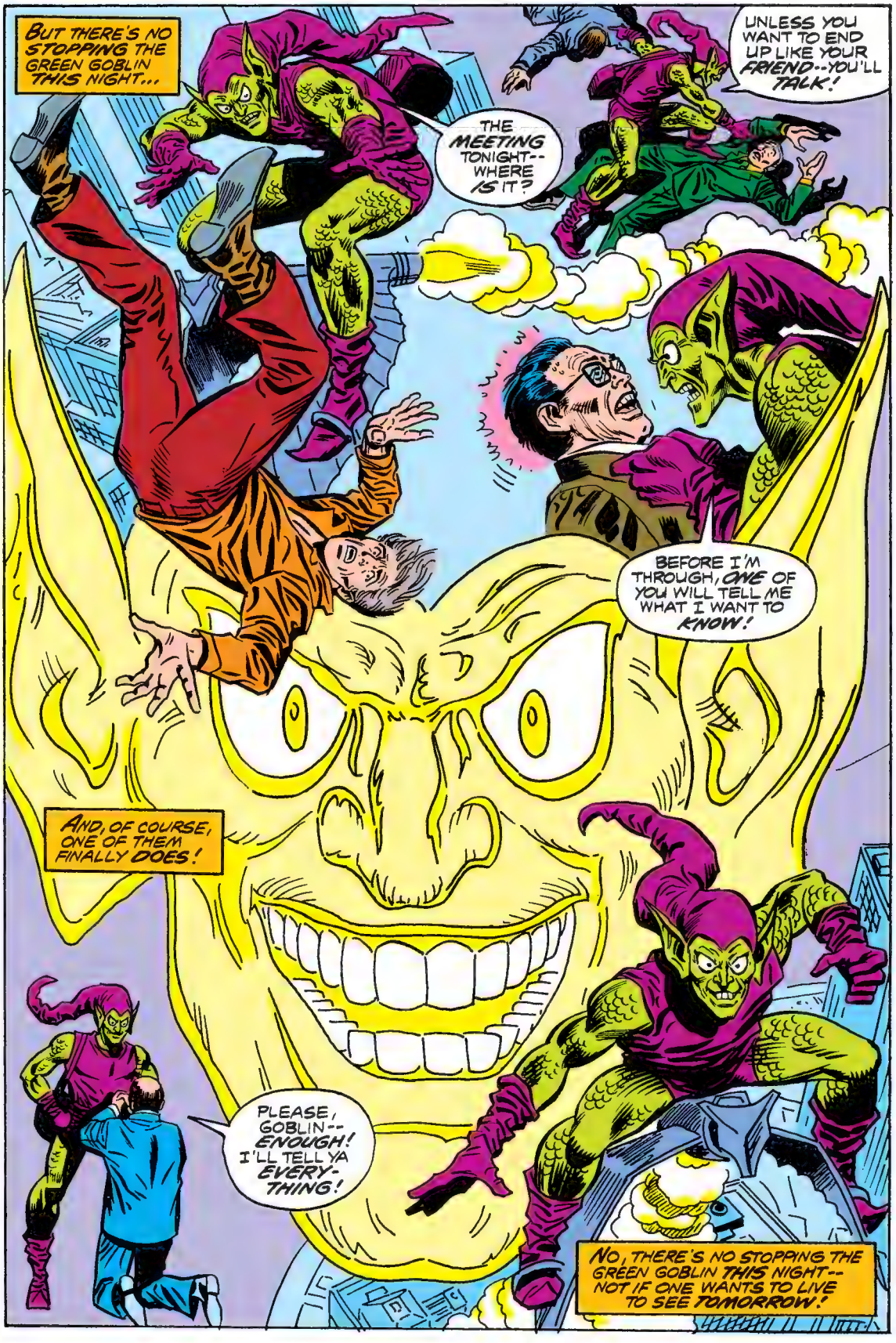
YOU MAY AS WELL GET USED TO YOUR CAPTIVITY, SINCE YOU ARE GOING TO REMAIN HERE UNTIL I HAVE ACHIEVED MY ULTIMATE AMBITION:
TO BECOME CRIME-BOSS OF ALL NEW YORK!!
MMPPHHMM!!

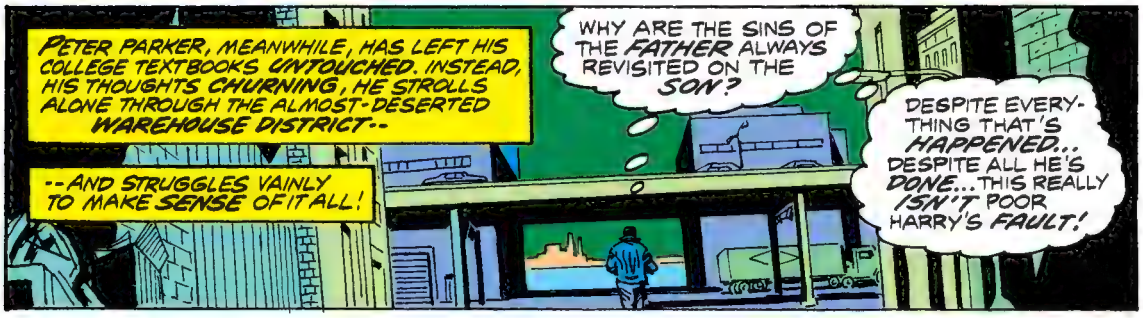
BLAST YOU--DON'T ARGUE WITH ME! WHEN I WANT YOUR OPINION, I'LL ASK FOR IT!
I'VE ALREADY COVERED YOUR FACE BECAUSE I COULDN'T BEAR TO SEE YOU SNIVELLING ANY LONGER--
--DON'T FORCE ME TO TAKE MORE EXTREME MEASURES!!

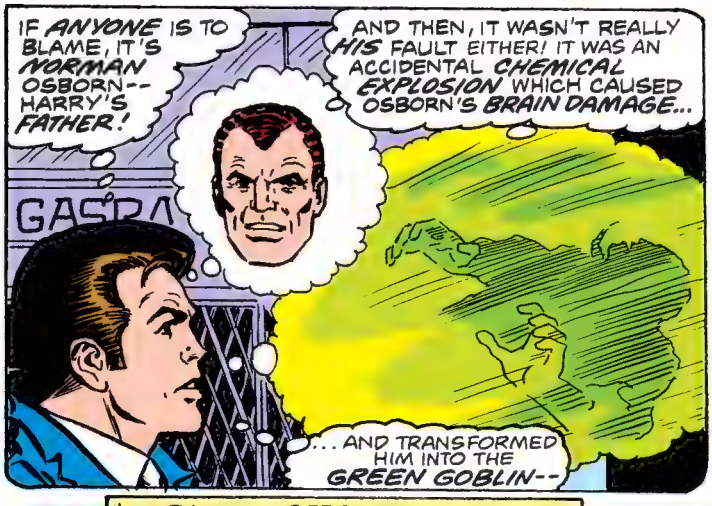

I OWE YOU A GREAT DEAL FROM OUR PSYCHIATRIC SESSIONS TOGETHER--BUT I WON'T HESITATE TO KILL YOU IF NECESSARY!
I WOULD ADVISE YOU TO REMEMBER THAT WHILE I'M GONE!
MMPPHHMM??
WHERE AM I GOING, YOU ASK?

I'VE LEARNED THERE IS TO BE A MEETING TONIGHT OF ALL THIS CITY'S TOP CRIMINALS--
--AND THE GREEN GOBLIN INTENDS TO BE THERE, TO CLAIM WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY MINE!
AND EVEN AS THE EMERALD-MASKED MANIAC'S CAPTIVE STRUGGLES VAINLY AGAINST HIS BONDS...

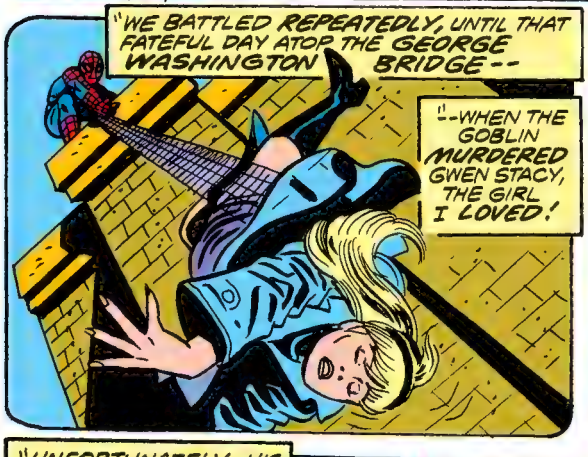
...WE'D BEST JOIN PETER PARKER IN HIS AILING AUNT'S HOSPITAL ROOM.
BUT TRY TO BE QUIET, OKAY? TECHNICALLY, THERE'S ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE TWO VISITORS TO A ROOM AT ONE TIME!
YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY, AUNT MAY?
DO I LOOK LIKE A SICK PERSON TO YOU, PETER DEAR? IT WAS JUST ALL THE EXCITEMENT YESTERDAY AT CITY HALL THAT UP-SET ME!*
I ONLY NEEDED A LITTLE REST, IS ALL! ACTUALLY, I'M SOUND AS A DOLLAR!
DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS, AUNT MAY!
CONSIDERING THE ECONOMY THESE DAYS, THAT'S NOT MUCH TO BRAG ABOUT!
* AGAIN, DETAILED LAST ISH. -- LEN.
HONESTLY, PETER-- YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY YOURSELF ABOUT ME!
I'LL MAKE YOU A DEAL, AUNT MAY-- YOU GET WELL, AND I WON'T WORRY!
AFTER ALL, IT'S FOOT-BALL SEASON-- AND WITHOUT NAMATH, THE JETS ARE GONNA NEED YOU TO QUARTER-BACK!
YOU TRYING TO PUT YOUR POOR OLD AUNT TO WORK AGAIN, TIGER?
HONESTLY, PETER--I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE PUTS UP WITH YOU!
HI, MARY JANE... HELLO, MRS. WATSON.
HOW NICE OF YOU BOTH TO STOP BY, MY DEARS--
--THOUGH I'LL THANK YOU NOT TO CALL ME OLD AGAIN, YOUNG LADY.
I THINK I'LL LEAVE YOU THREE TO BATTLE THIS OUT AMONGST YOUR-SELVES--WHILE I HIT THE BOOKS!
YOU JUST TAKE IT EASY, AUNT MAY-- AND I'LL BE BY TO SEE YOU IN THE MORNING!
WE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER FOR YOU, PETER.
JUST DON'T FORGET TO ZIP UP YOUR JACKET, DEAR. IT GETS A BIT CHILLY AT NIGHT.
I ABSOLUTELY ADORE THAT LADY! IF I HAD MY CHOICE, I'D NEVER LEAVE HER SIDE.
BUT I HAVEN'T ANY CHOICE... HAVE I?
THE GREEN GOBLIN IS STILL ON THE LOOSE-- AND SOME-HOW, I HAVE TO STOP HIM!

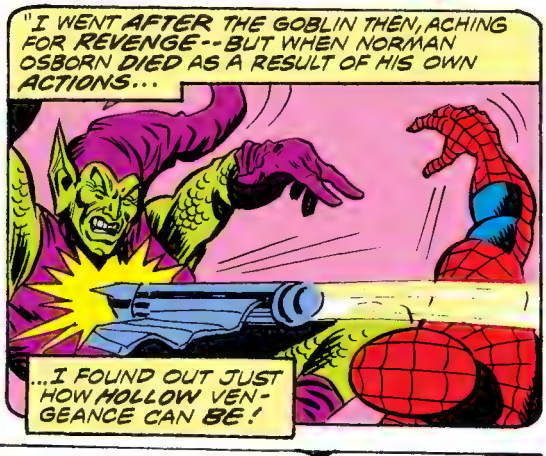

BUT THERE'S NO STOPPING THE GREEN GOBLIN THIS NIGHT...
THE MEETING TONIGHT--WHERE IS IT?
UNLESS YOU WANT TO END UP LIKE YOUR FRIEND--YOU'LL TALK!
BEFORE I'M THROUGH, ONE OF YOU WILL TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!
AND, OF COURSE, ONE OF THEM FINALLY DOES!
PLEASE, GOBLIN--ENOUGH! I'LL TELL YA EVERY-THING!
NO, THERE'S NO STOPPING THE GREEN GOBLIN THIS NIGHT--NOT IF ONE WANTS TO LIVE TO SEE TOMORROW!

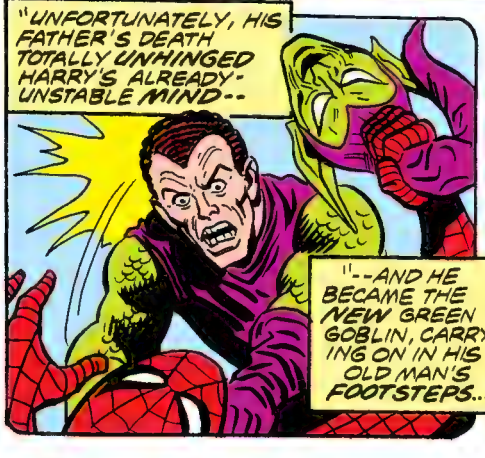

PETER PARKER, MEANWHILE, HAS LEFT HIS COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS UNTOUCHED. INSTEAD, HIS THOUGHTS CHURNING, HE STROLLS ALONE THROUGH THE ALMOST-DESERTED WAREHOUSE DISTRICT--
--AND STRUGGLES VAINLY TO MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL!
WHY ARE THE SINS OF THE FATHER ALWAYS REVISITED ON THE SON?
DESPITE EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED... DESPITE ALL HE'S DONE...THIS REALLY ISN'T POOR HARRY'S FAULT!

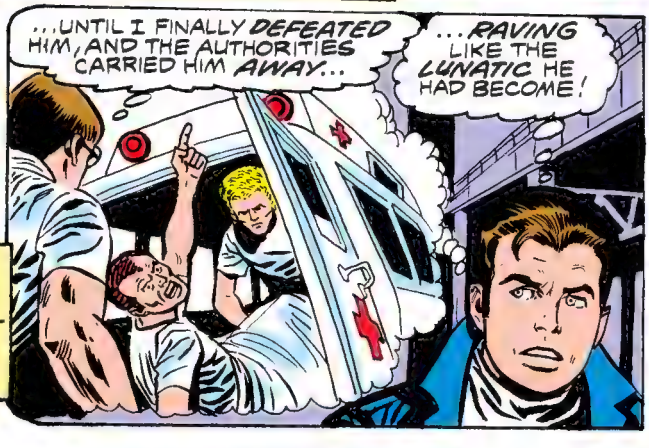

IF ANYONE IS TO BLAME, IT'S NORMAN OSBORN--HARRY'S FATHER!
AND THEN, IT WASN'T REALLY HIS FAULT EITHER! IT WAS AN ACCIDENTAL CHEMICAL EXPLOSION WHICH CAUSED OSBORN'S BRAIN DAMAGE...
...AND TRANSFORMED HIM INTO THE GREEN GOBLIN--

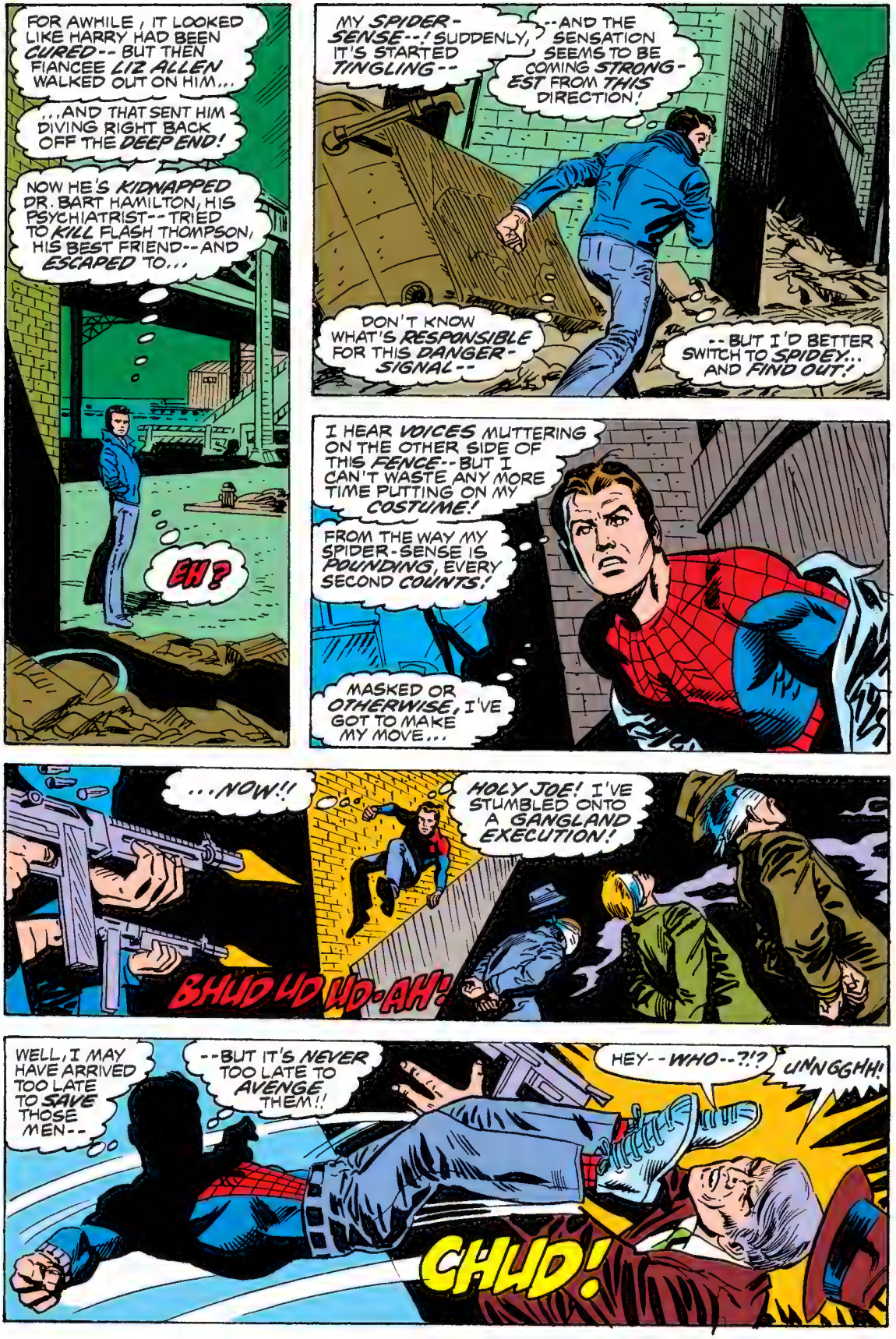
"--THE ONLY FOE WHO KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY!

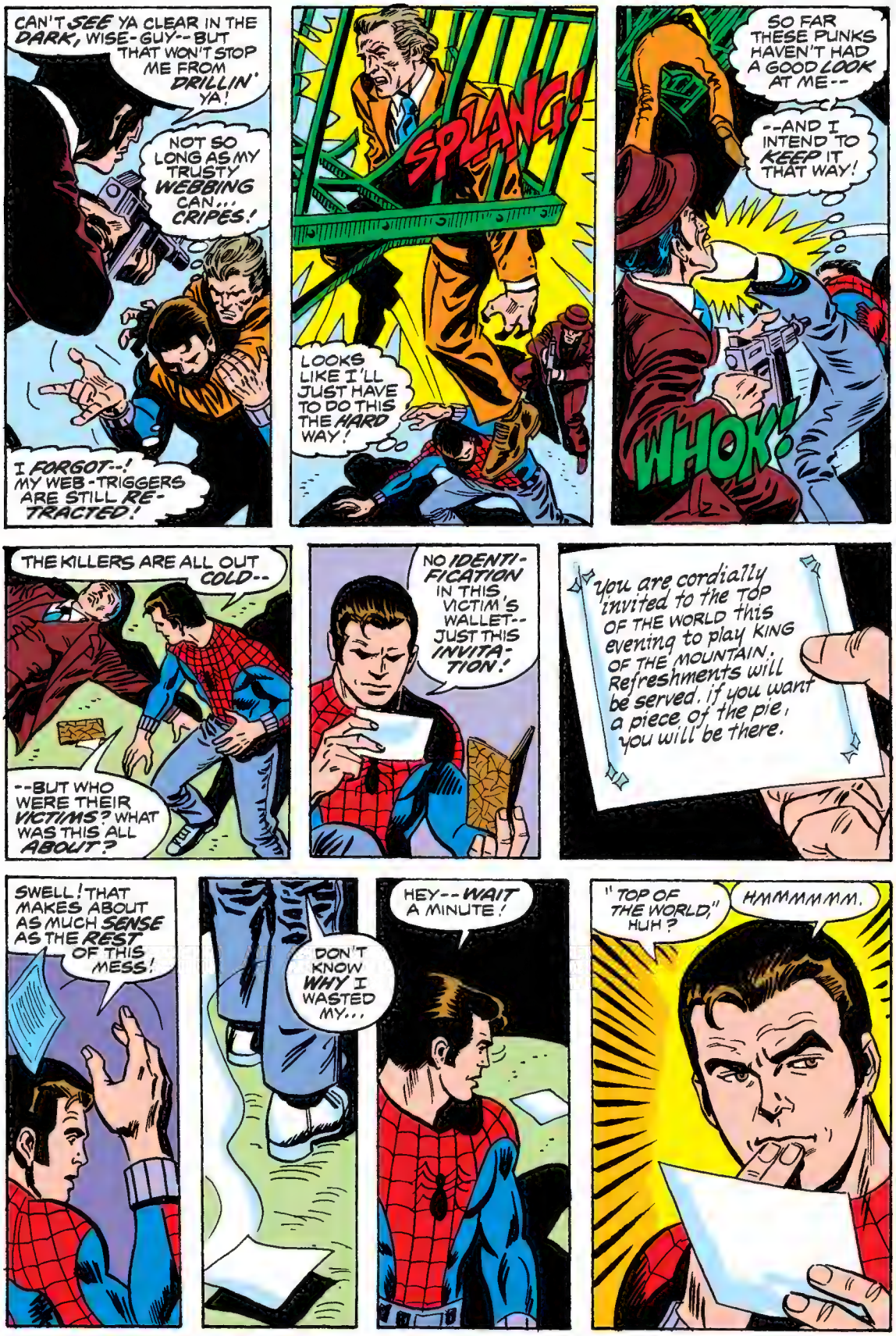

"WE BATTLED REPEATEDLY, UNTIL THAT FATEFUL DAY ATOP THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE--
"--WHEN THE GOBLIN MURDERED GWEN STACY, THE GIRL I LOVED!


"I WENT AFTER THE GOBLIN THEN, ACHING FOR REVENGE--BUT WHEN NORMAN OSBORN DIED AS A RESULT OF HIS OWN ACTIONS...
...I FOUND OUT JUST HOW HOLLOW VENGEANCE CAN BE!

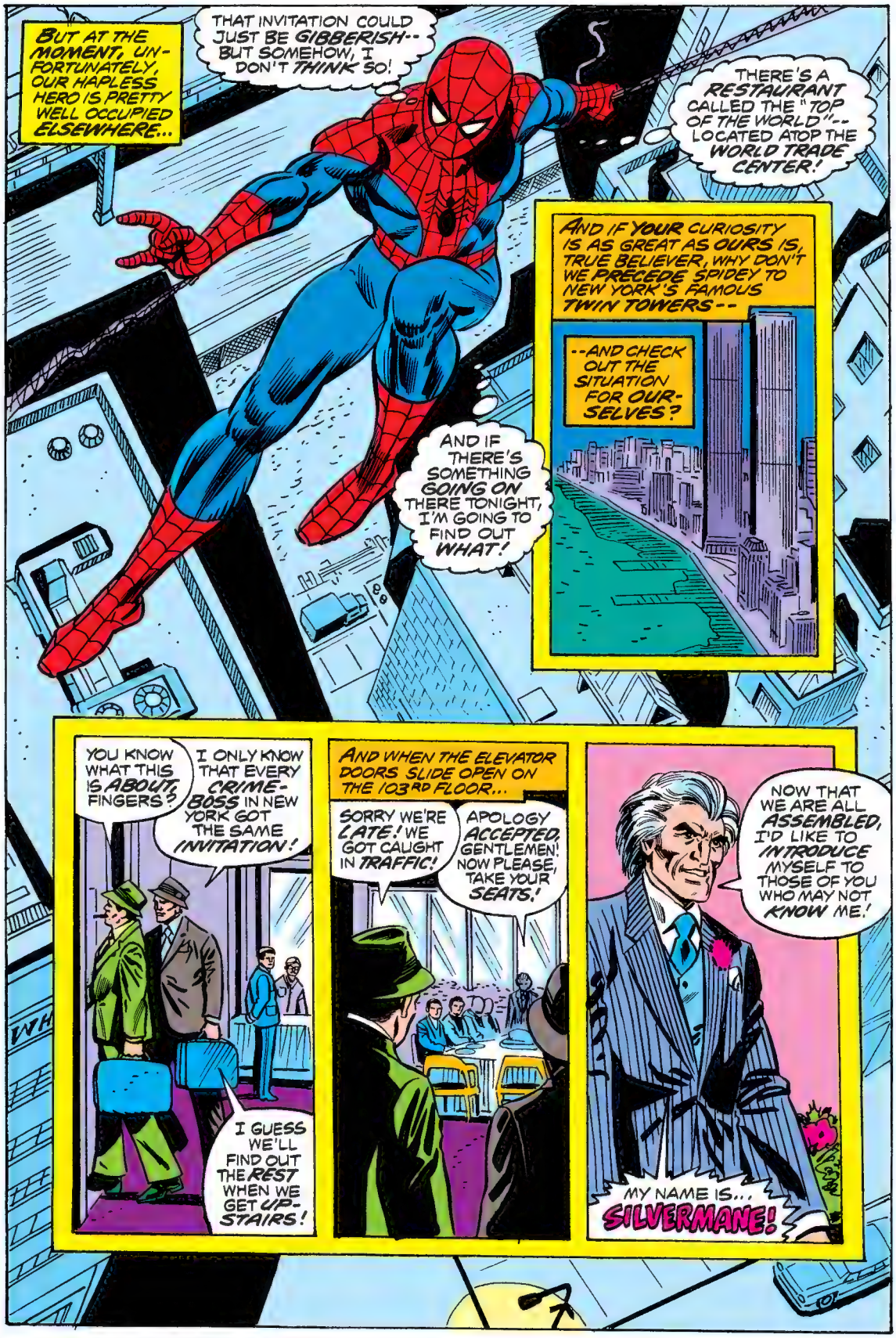

"UNFORTUNATELY, HIS FATHER'S DEATH TOTALLY UNHINGED HARRY'S ALREADY-UNSTABLE MIND--
"--AND HE BECAME THE NEW GREEN GOBLIN, CARRYING ON IN HIS OLD MAN'S FOOTSTEPS...

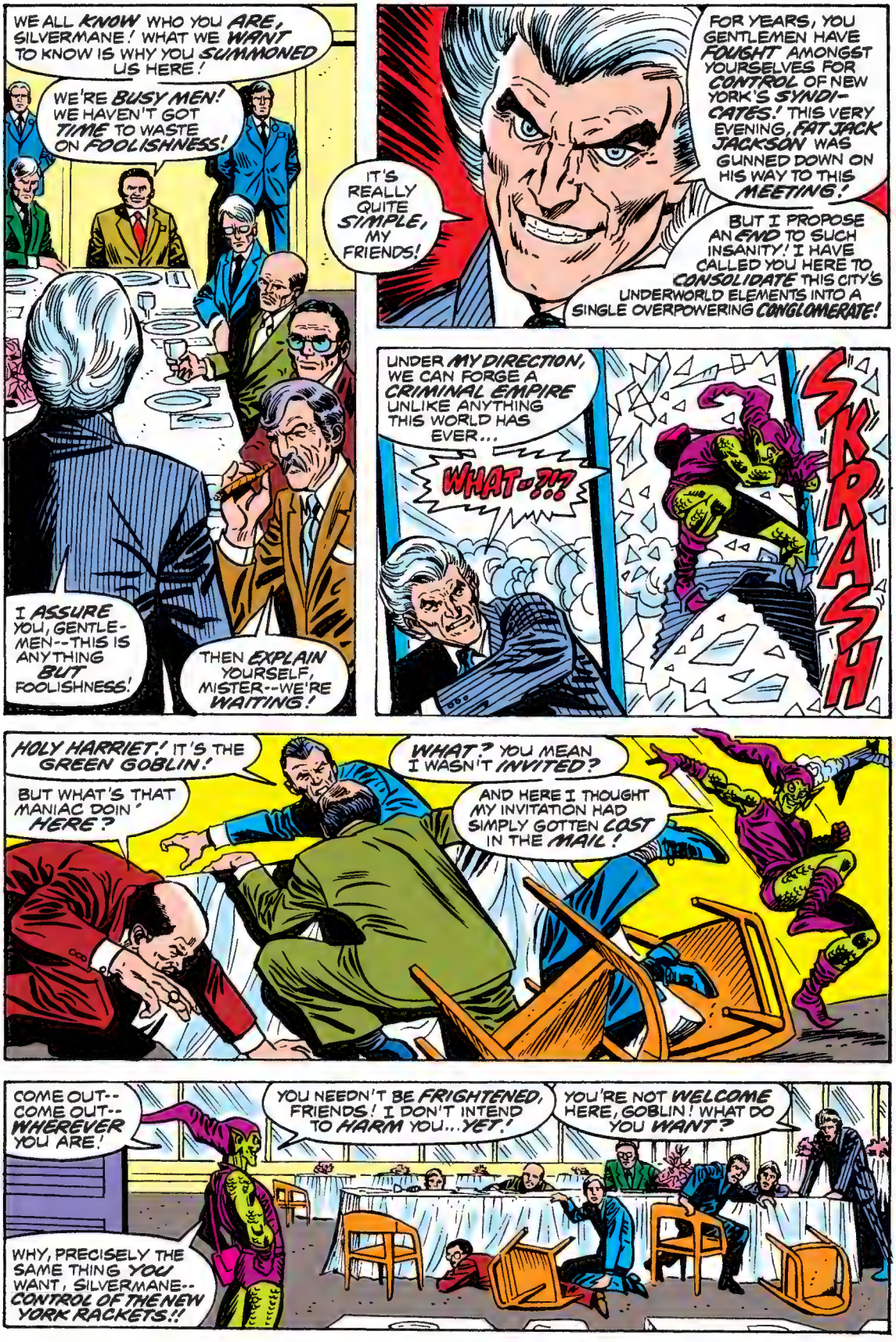

...UNTIL I FINALLY DEFEATED HIM, AND THE AUTHORITIES CARRIED HIM AWAY...
...RAVING LIKE THE LUNATIC HE HAD BECOME!


FOR AWHILE, IT LOOKED LIKE HARRY HAD BEEN CURED -- BUT THEN FIANCEE LIZ ALLEN WALKED OUT ON HIM...
...AND THAT SENT HIM DIVING RIGHT BACK OFF THE DEEP END!
NOW HE'S KIDNAPPED DR. BART HAMILTON, HIS PSYCHIATRIST -- TRIED TO KILL FLASH THOMPSON, HIS BEST FRIEND -- AND ESCAPED TO...
EH?
MY SPIDER-SENSE --! SUDDENLY, IT'S STARTED TINGLING --
--AND THE SENSATION SEEMS TO BE COMING STRONGEST FROM THIS DIRECTION!
DON'T KNOW WHAT'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS DANGER-SIGNAL --
--BUT I'D BETTER SWITCH TO SPIDEY... AND FIND OUT!
I HEAR VOICES MUTTERING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FENCE -- BUT I CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME PUTTING ON MY COSTUME!
FROM THE WAY MY SPIDER-SENSE IS POUNDING, EVERY SECOND COUNTS!
MASKED OR OTHERWISE, I'VE GOT TO MAKE MY MOVE...
...NOW!!
HOLY JOE! I'VE STUMBLED ONTO A GANGLAND EXECUTION!
BHUD UD UD-AH!
WELL, I MAY HAVE ARRIVED TOO LATE TO SAVE THOSE MEN --
--BUT IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO AVENGE THEM!!
HEY -- WHO --?!?
UNNGGHH!
CHUD!


CAN'T SEE YA CLEAR IN THE DARK, WISE-GUY--BUT THAT WON'T STOP ME FROM DRILLIN' YA!
NOT SO LONG AS MY TRUSTY WEBBING CAN... CRIPES!
I FORGOT--! MY WEB-TRIGGERS ARE STILL RE-TRACTED!
SPLANG!
LOOKS LIKE I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY!
SO FAR THESE PUNKS HAVEN'T HAD A GOOD LOOK AT ME--
--AND I INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!
WHOK!
THE KILLERS ARE ALL OUT COLD--
--BUT WHO WERE THEIR VICTIMS? WHAT WAS THIS ALL ABOUT?
NO IDENTI-FICATION IN THIS VICTIM'S WALLET--JUST THIS INVITA-TION!
you are cordially invited to the TOP OF THE WORLD this evening to play KING OF THE MOUNTAIN. Refreshments will be served. if you want a piece of the pie, you will be there.
SWELL! THAT MAKES ABOUT AS MUCH SENSE AS THE REST OF THIS MESS!
DON'T KNOW WHY I WASTED MY...
HEY--WAIT A MINUTE!
"TOP OF THE WORLD," HUH?
HMMMMMM.

WHILE...
WELL, MAY--WE'VE GOT TO BE GOING NOW.
YOU KEEP SMILING, OKAY? WE'LL BE BACK TO SEE YOU TOMORROW.
IF I'M NOT OUT OF HERE BY THEN.
I TELL YOU, MY DEARS, I'M FEELING BETTER THAN I HAVE IN...
OH NO! NO!!
OH.
MY CHEST-- THE PAIN-- THE PAIN--!!
SWEET HEAVEN, MARY JANE--DO SOMETHING! MAY IS HAVING ANOTHER ATTACK!!
STAY WITH HER, AUNT ANNA! I'LL GET THE DOC!!
HURRY, DEAR-- HURRY!! I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER SHE CAN LAST!
YOU'D BETTER GET SOMEONE INTO MAY PARKER'S ROOM--AND FAST!
SHE HAVING ANOTHER ATTACK--AND IT LOOKS LIKE A BAD ONE!
WHAT--?!?
NURSE, GET THE HEART UNIT ROLLING-- AND I MEAN NOW!
WE'VE GOT A RED BLANKET SITUATION!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THIS COULD HAPPEN! SHE WAS LOOKING SO MUCH BETTER!
I'VE GOT TO CALL PETEY-- LET HIM KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!
IF THEY HAVE TO OPERATE--GOD FORBID--THEY'LL NEED PETER'S PERMISSION!
IT'S RINGING-- BUT I'M NOT GETTING ANY RESPONSE!
COME ON, PETER-- ANSWER THE PHONE! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HOME STUDYING!
RING RING RING RING
YOU'VE GOT TO ANSWER, PETER--YOU'VE GOT TO! YOUR POOR AUNT MAY BE DYING!!

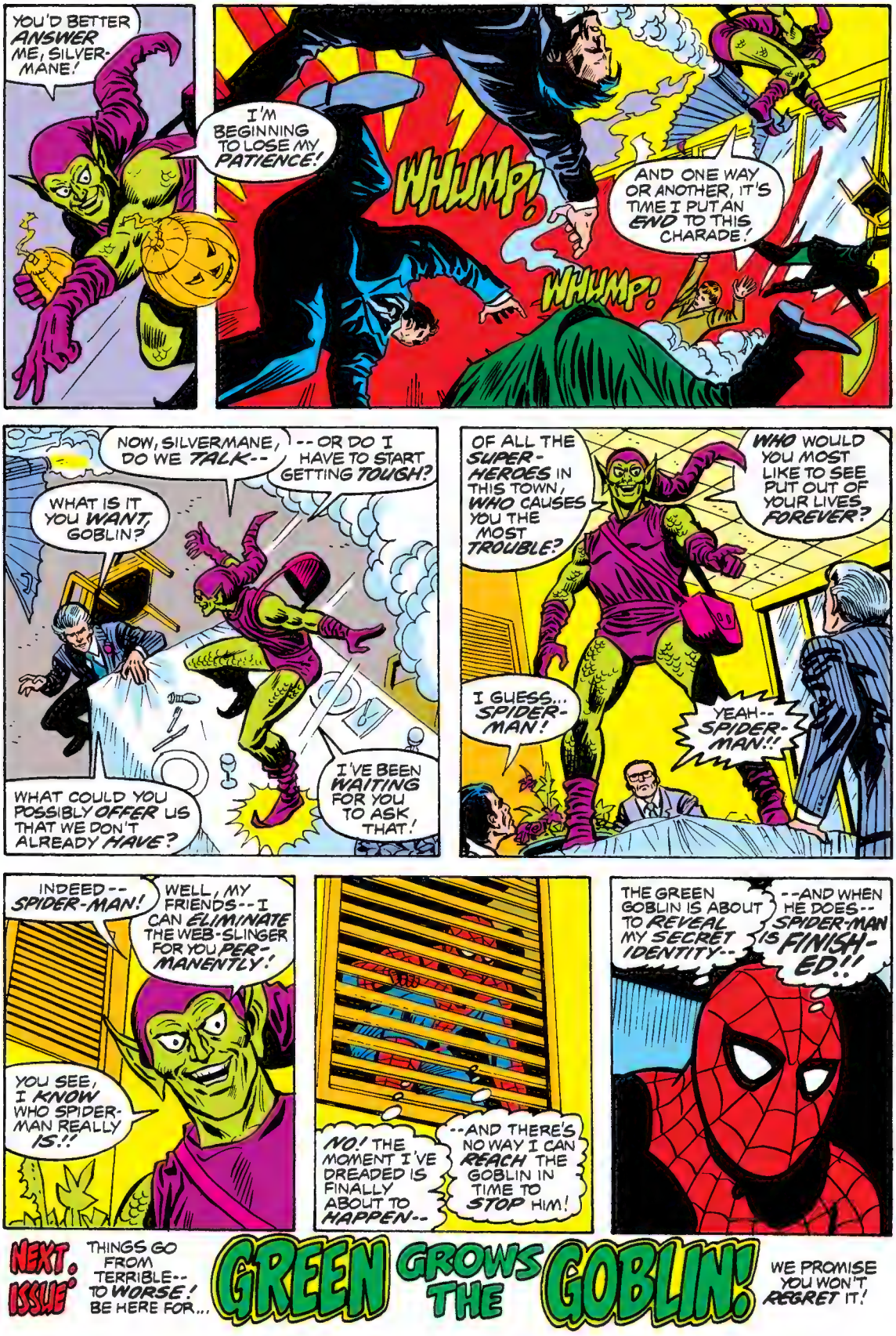

BUT AT THE MOMENT, UNFORTUNATELY, OUR HAPLESS HERO IS PRETTY WELL OCCUPIED ELSEWHERE...
THAT INVITATION COULD JUST BE GIBBERISH-- BUT SOMEHOW, I DON'T THINK SO!
THERE'S A RESTAURANT CALLED THE "TOP OF THE WORLD"-- LOCATED ATOP THE WORLD TRADE CENTER!
AND IF YOUR CURIOSITY IS AS GREAT AS OURS IS, TRUE BELIEVER, WHY DON'T WE PRECEDE SPIDEY TO NEW YORK'S FAMOUS TWIN TOWERS--
--AND CHECK OUT THE SITUATION FOR OURSELVES?
AND IF THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON THERE TONIGHT, I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT!
YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS ABOUT, FINGERS?
I ONLY KNOW THAT EVERY CRIME-BOSS IN NEW YORK GOT THE SAME INVITATION!
I GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT THE REST WHEN WE GET UPSTAIRS!
AND WHEN THE ELEVATOR DOORS SLIDE OPEN ON THE 103RD FLOOR...
SORRY WE'RE LATE! WE GOT CAUGHT IN TRAFFIC!
APOLOGY ACCEPTED, GENTLEMEN! NOW PLEASE, TAKE YOUR SEATS!
NOW THAT WE ARE ALL ASSEMBLED, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE MYSELF TO THOSE OF YOU WHO MAY NOT KNOW ME!
MY NAME IS... SILVERMANE!


WE ALL KNOW WHO YOU ARE, SILVERMANE! WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW IS WHY YOU SUMMONED US HERE!
WE'RE BUSY MEN! WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO WASTE ON FOOLISHNESS!
I ASSURE YOU, GENTLEMEN--THIS IS ANYTHING BUT FOOLISHNESS!
THEN EXPLAIN YOURSELF, MISTER--WE'RE WAITING!
IT'S REALLY QUITE SIMPLE, MY FRIENDS!
FOR YEARS, YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE FOUGHT AMONGST YOURSELVES FOR CONTROL OF NEW YORK'S SYNDICATES! THIS VERY EVENING, FAT JACK JACKSON WAS GUNNED DOWN ON HIS WAY TO THIS MEETING!
BUT I PROPOSE AN END TO SUCH INSANITY! I HAVE CALLED YOU HERE TO CONSOLIDATE THIS CITY'S UNDERWORLD ELEMENTS INTO A SINGLE OVERPOWERING CONGLOMERATE!
UNDER MY DIRECTION, WE CAN FORGE A CRIMINAL EMPIRE UNLIKE ANYTHING THIS WORLD HAS EVER...
WHAT--?!?
SKRASH
HOLY HARRIET! IT'S THE GREEN GOBLIN!
BUT WHAT'S THAT MANIAC DOIN' HERE?
WHAT? YOU MEAN I WASN'T INVITED?
AND HERE I THOUGHT MY INVITATION HAD SIMPLY GOTTEN LOST IN THE MAIL!
COME OUT-- COME OUT-- WHEREVER YOU ARE!
YOU NEEDN'T BE FRIGHTENED, FRIENDS! I DON'T INTEND TO HARM YOU...YET!
YOU'RE NOT WELCOME HERE, GOBLIN! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WHY, PRECISELY THE SAME THING YOU WANT, SILVERMANE-- CONTROL OF THE NEW YORK RACKETS!!

WHILE, OUTSIDE...
ONE OF THE RESTAURANT WINDOWS HAS BEEN SMASHED--AND MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING TO BEAT THE BAND!
SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY WRONG IN THERE--
--BUT FOR A CHANGE, I'M GOING TO LOOK BEFORE I LEAP!
THAT AIR SHAFT OUGHT TO GET ME INSIDE...
... AND FROM THERE, I'LL JUST HAVE TO PLAY IT ALL BY EAR!
YOU LOOK SURPRISED, SILVERMANE --YOU SHOULDN'T BE!
THE GREEN GOBLIN HAS SOUGHT CONTROL OF THIS CITY'S CRIME COMBINE FOR YEARS!
IT ISN'T YOUR GOAL THAT SURPRISES ME, GOBLIN--IT'S YOUR AUDACITY!
I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A CRIME-KING--FIRST, AS RULER OF THE MAGGIA --THEN, AS HEAD OF HYDRA!*
*SPIDER-MAN #73-75 & DARE-DEVIL #121-123, RESPECTIVELY.--LEN.
WHAT ARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS, MADMAN?
NO, GOBLIN, I'M AFRAID ALL THAT YOU HAVE EARNED IS A SWIFT AND SUDDEN DEATH!
FINISH HIM, MEN!!
YOU DOLTS SHOULDN'T TRY TO FINISH SOMETHING YOU CAN'T EVEN BEGIN!
BLAM!
BLAM!
HEY--WHERE'D HE GO?
I AIN'T NEVER SEEN NOBODY MOVE THAT FAST!

THEN YOU'RE IN FOR A *THREAT*, MY FRIENDS!
TO BE *HONEST*, YOU HAVEN'T SEEN *ANYTHING*-- UNTIL YOU'VE SEEN THE GREEN GOBLIN IN *ACTION*!
HAHAHAHAHA
BROK!
WHOK!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S LIKELY TO BE THE *LAST* THING YOU *EVER* SEE!
WATCH OUT! HE'S COMING...
UUNNGGHH!!

YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, YOU'RE ONLY PROLONGING THE INEVITABLE!
WHEN THIS IS OVER, SILVERMANE--WE WILL TALK!
WILL YA STAND STILL, YA GRINNIN' JACKRABBIT?!
THAT QUESTION IS TOO LUDICROUS TO EVEN WARRANT A REPLY!
POW!
DON'T WORRY! I'VE GOT HIM IN MY...
CLICK! CLICK!
MY GUN--IT'S JAMMED!!
WHA--?!?
HEY--LET GO OF ME, YOU SCREWBALL!
LET GO!!
WHATEVER YOU SAY--
--THOUGH I HAD ALREADY INTENDED TO DO PRECISELY THAT!
WWHHUUFF!!
THWUDD!
HONESTLY, SILVERMANE, THIS REALLY ISN'T GETTING US ANYWHERE!
WHY DON'T YOU CALL OFF YOUR TRAINED DOGS--AND LET US DISCUSS OUR DIFFERENCES LIKE CIVILIZED MEN?
ZAK!
BHUD.
UP.
AH!
AARRGGHH


YOU'D BETTER ANSWER ME, SILVER-MANE!
I'M BEGINNING TO LOSE MY PATIENCE!
WHUMP!
AND ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, IT'S TIME I PUT AN END TO THIS CHARADE!
WHUMP!
NOW, SILVERMANE, DO WE TALK--
--OR DO I HAVE TO START GETTING TOUGH?
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT, GOBLIN?
WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY OFFER US THAT WE DON'T ALREADY HAVE?
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO ASK THAT.
OF ALL THE SUPER-HEROES IN THIS TOWN, WHO CAUSES YOU THE MOST TROUBLE?
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO SEE PUT OUT OF YOUR LIVES FOREVER?
I GUESS... SPIDER-MAN!
YEAH-- SPIDER-MAN!!
INDEED-- SPIDER-MAN!
WELL, MY FRIENDS--I CAN ELIMINATE THE WEB-SLINGER FOR YOU PERMANENTLY!
YOU SEE, I KNOW WHO SPIDER-MAN REALLY IS!!
NO! THE MOMENT I'VE DREADED IS FINALLY ABOUT TO HAPPEN--
--AND THERE'S NO WAY I CAN REACH THE GOBLIN IN TIME TO STOP HIM!
THE GREEN GOBLIN IS ABOUT TO REVEAL MY SECRET IDENTITY--
--AND WHEN HE DOES-- SPIDER-MAN IS FINISHED!!
NEXT ISSUE
THINGS GO FROM TERRIBLE-- TO WORSE! BE HERE FOR...
GREEN GOBLIN GROWS!
WE PROMISE YOU WON'T REGRET IT!

SPIDER-MAN
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
©1977 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
AUNT MAY IS DYING-- AND ONLY PETER PARKER CAN SAVE HER!
BUT WHERE IS HE??
WHERE ELSE? HE'S...
IN THE GRIP OF THE GREEN GOBLIN!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

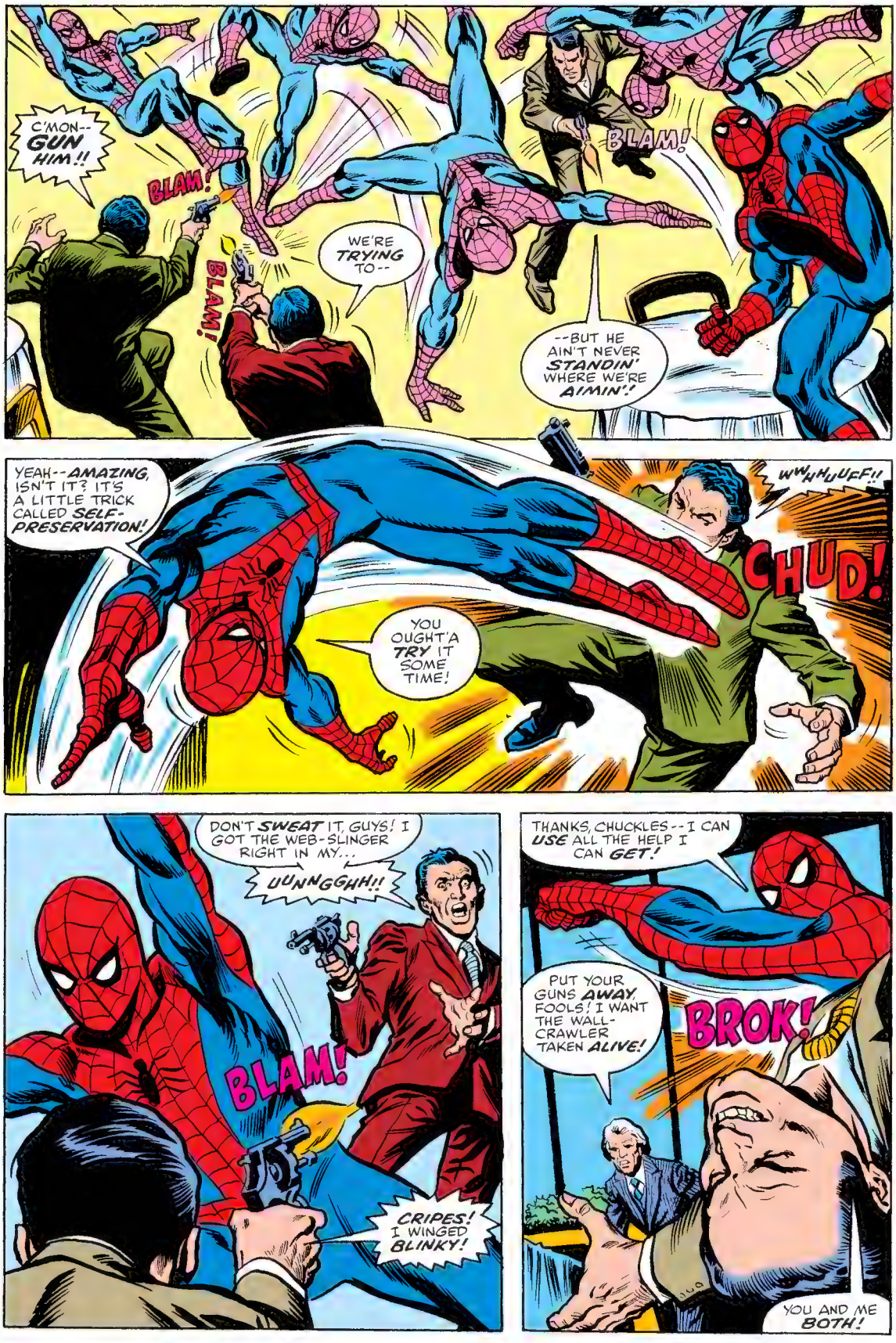
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

LEN WEIN: WRITER/EDITOR * ROSS ANDRU: ARTIST * JIM MOONEY: INKER * GLYNIS WEIN: COLORIST * JOE ROSEN: LETTERER

LAST ISSUE, YOU MAY RECALL, EVERYONE'S FAVORITE WEB-SLINGER WATCHED FROM A SECLUDED AIR-SHAFT AS THE MANIACAL GREEN GOBLIN TRIUMPHANTLY EXCLAIMED:
MY FRIENDS, I CAN ELIMINATE SPIDER-MAN FOR YOU PERMANENTLY!
YOU SEE, I KNOW WHO SPIDER-MAN REALLY IS!
NO! THE GOBLIN IS ABOUT TO REVEAL MY SECRET IDENTITY--
--AND WHEN HE DOES... SPIDER-MAN IS FINISHED!!
GREEN GROWS THE GOBLIN!

IMAGINE IT, GENTLEMEN -- A LITTLE COOPERATION, AND I CAN ERADICATE YOUR GREATEST NEMESIS!
ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, IS THAT SUCH A BAD BARGAIN?
Y'KNOW, MAYBE THE GOBLIN HAS A POINT!
YEAH... I SAY WE HEAR HIM OUT!
THIS IS RIDICULOUS! I CALLED THIS MEETING TO DISCUSS ORGANIZING NEW YORK'S CRIMINAL ELEMENT UNDER MY COMMAND --
-- NOT TO LISTEN TO THE RAVINGS OF SOME EMERALD-MASKED LUNATIC!
IF YOU KNOW WHO SPIDER-MAN IS, GOBLIN -- TELL US!!
REALLY, MY DEAR SILVER-MANE -- DO YOU THINK ME SO NAIVE?
THAT, AS THEY SAY, IS FOR ME TO KNOW AND YOU TO FIND OUT...
...UNLESS, OF COURSE, WE CAN REACH AN UNDER-STANDING!
BLAST YOU, GOBLIN -- WHAT IN BLAZES DO YOU WANT?
WHY, THE VERY SAME THING YOU WANT, SILVERMANE --
-- I WANT TO BECOME CRIME-BOSS OF THIS FAIR CITY!!
YOU PROVE YOU CAN DELIVER WHAT YOU PROMISE, GOBLIN --
-- AND MAYBE THEN WE'LL TALK!

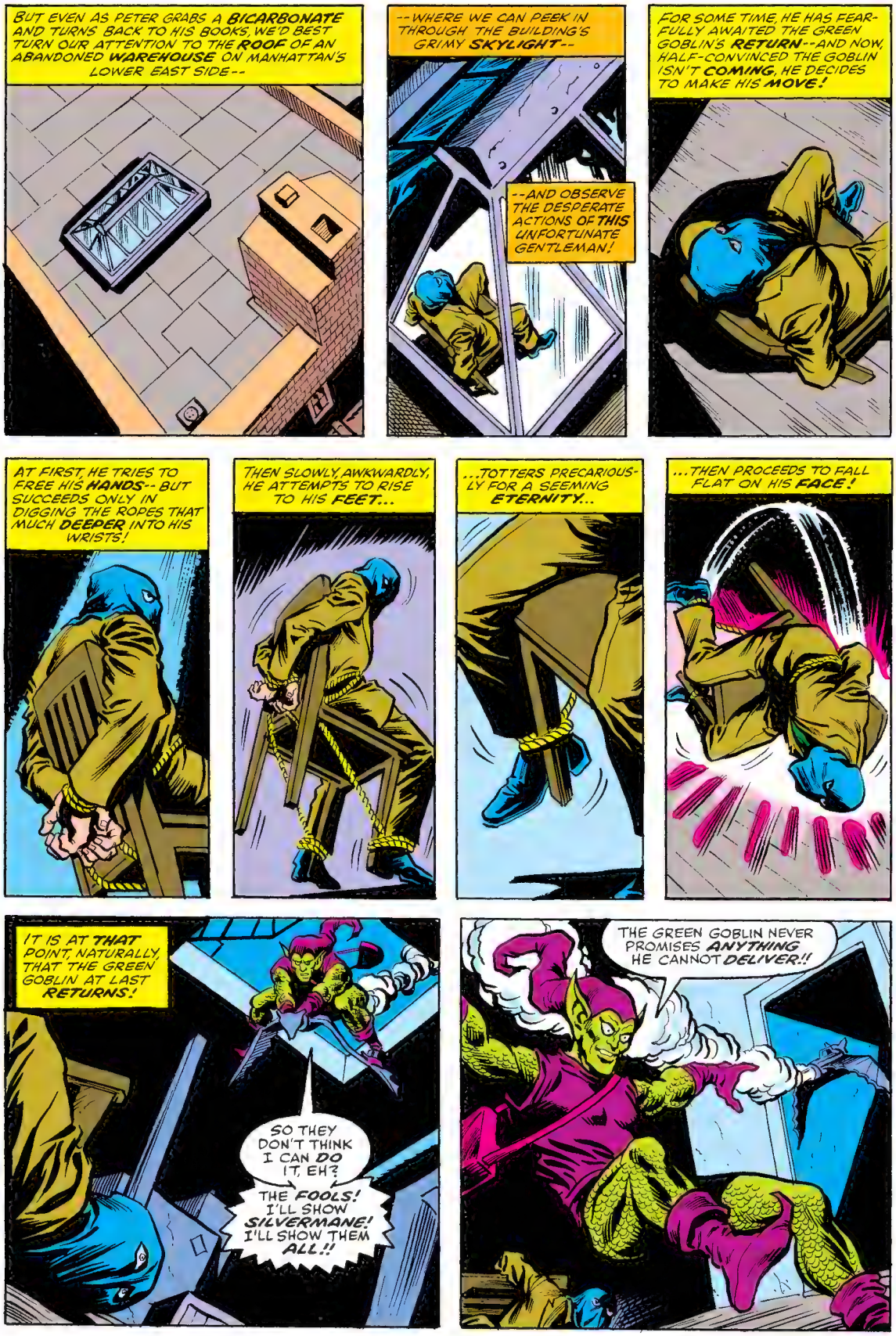
IF THAT'S ALL YOU WANT, GIVE ME 24 HOURS--
--AND I'LL RETURN, BEARING SPIDER-MAN...
...OR HIS HEAD ON A SILVER PLATTER!
TA-TA... FOR NOW!
THE MAN IS AN UTTER MANIAC-- BUT WHAT FRIGHTENS ME MOST IS THE THOUGHT HE MIGHT ACTUALLY SUCCEED--
--THUS DESTROYING ALL MY CAREFULLY-LAID PLANS!
AND THAT I SIMPLY CAN-NOT ALLOW!
I'VE HEARD ALL I NEED TO HEAR! NOW I'D BETTER...
BLANG!
OW!
OBOY.
HEY, DID YOU HEAR THAT?
HOW COULD I MISS IT?
BUT WHERE DID IT COME FROM?
HE'S HIDING IN THAT AIR-VENT, FOOLS!
WHOEVER YOU ARE IN THERE, YOU'D BEST COME OUT--
--BEFORE WE TURN THAT VENT INTO A SIEVE!
I HAD A NASTY FEELING HIDING IN THIS AIR-VENT WASN'T GONNA WORK OUT, SO I MIGHT AS WELL BRACE MYSELF...
...AND GET THIS WHOLE SCREWY MESS OVER WITH!!
KRANG!
SPAK!
SPOW!
HOLY CROW! IT'S--IT'S SPIDER-MAN!?!


C'MON--GUN HIM!!
BLAM!
BLAM!
WE'RE TRYING TO--
BLAM!
--BUT HE AIN'T NEVER STANDIN' WHERE WE'RE AIMIN'!
YEAH--AMAZING, ISN'T IT? IT'S A LITTLE TRICK CALLED SELF-PRESERVATION!
WWHHUUFF!!
CHUD!
YOU OUGHT'A TRY IT SOME TIME!
DON'T SWEAT IT, GUYS! I GOT THE WEB-SLINGER RIGHT IN MY...
UUNNGGHH!!
BLAM!
CRIPES! I WINGED BLINKY!
THANKS, CHUCKLES--I CAN USE ALL THE HELP I CAN GET!
PUT YOUR GUNS AWAY, FOOLS! I WANT THE WALL-CRAWLER TAKEN ALIVE!
BROK!
YOU AND ME BOTH!

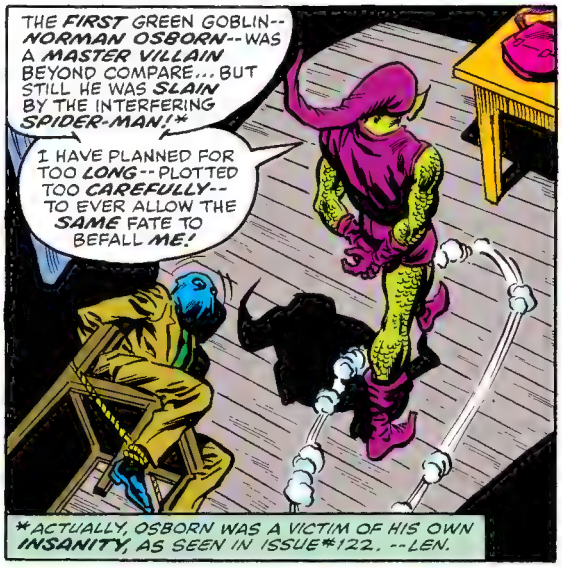
SILVERMANE SAID TO TAKE YA ALIVE, WEBHEAD--
--BUT HE DIDN'T SAY YA HADDA BE INTACT!
Y'KNOW, I REALLY HATE NIT-PICKERS!
THAT CHAIR-- IT DIDN'T EVEN--!
HUH?
HEY-- LEGGO!!
YOU HEARD HIM, WALL-CRAWLER!
YEAH, LET LOOSE OUR BUDDIES-- OR ELSE!!
OKAY, FELLAS--YOU WANT 'EM, YOU GOT 'EM!
BUT I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GONNA LIKE 'EM!!
UUNNHH!!
OOOFF!!
UUNFF!!
THIS ENTIRE OPERATION HAS GONE SOUR! I'D BEST TAKE MY LEAVE--
--BEFORE THE WEB-SLINGER TURNS HIS TENDER MERCIES TO ME!
WHICH WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN VERY LONG APPARENTLY AS...
OKAY, SILVERMANE-- I'VE FINISHED YOUR FLUNKIES! NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU AND ME TO...
CRUMBS! SILVERMANE HAS SKIPPED!
AND WITH HIM GONE, THERE'S NO MORE REASON FOR ME TO STICK AROUND!

WHILE UPTOWN, AT NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL...
YOUR FRIEND MRS. PARKER SEEMS STABLE FOR THE MOMENT, MRS. WATSON-- BUT THE SITUATION CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME!
OH DEAR! TH-THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR HER... ISN'T THERE?
THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE, MA'AM. WE MAY ULTIMATELY HAVE TO PERFORM SURGERY--
-- BUT NOT, OF COURSE, UNTIL HER NEXT-OF-KIN SIGNS THE CONSENT FORMS!
THAT WOULD BE HER NEPHEW PETER PARKER! MY NIECE MARY JANE IS TRYING TO CONTACT HIM NOW!
TRYING IS THE WORD FOR IT, AUNT ANNA. PETEY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HOME STUDYING-- BUT NOBODY ANSWERS THE PHONE!
LORD-- NO!
WH-WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
THERE ISN'T MUCH WE CAN DO-- EXCEPT TRY TO FIND PETER!
I'M GOING TO CHECK OUT HIS USUAL HAUNTS, AUNT ANNA!
YOU STAY HERE IN CASE MRS. PARKER NEEDS ANYTHING!
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, DEAR... AND GOOD LUCK!
TRUTH TO TELL, AUNT ANNA-- I'M GOING TO NEED ALL THE LUCK I CAN GET!
THERE ARE BETTER THAN TEN MILLION PEOPLE IN NEW YORK CITY...
...AND THE ODDS OF MY FINDING A "NEEDLE" NAMED PETER PARKER IN A "HAYSTACK" THIS SIZE ARE WORSE THAN AWFUL!
BUT I HAVE TO FIND HIM-- I HAVE TO!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIS AUNT MAY BECAUSE HE WASN'T HERE TO HELP, PETER WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH THE GUILT!

AND, IN THE CHELSEA APARTMENT OF PETER PARKER, MERE MINUTES AFTER MARY JANE'S FRANTIC CALL...
NOT A PRAYER OF FINDING SILVERMANE OR THE GOBLIN AGAIN TONIGHT--
--SO I MIGHT AS WELL TRY TO GET SOME OF THAT STUDYING DONE!
GOBLIN, GOBLIN, GOBLIN...
FUNNY HOW I KEEP THINKING OF HIM AS THE GREEN GOBLIN, AND NOT AS HARRY OSBORN--
--A POOR, DISTURBED GUY WHO NEEDS MY HELP A LOT MORE THAN MY PITY OR MY HATE!
OF COURSE, IT'S NOT EASY TO REMEMBER THAT WHEN THE GUY IS TRYING HIS BEST TO KILL ME!
IN FACT, SINCE HARRY KNOWS I'M REALLY SPIDER-MAN, HE'LL HAVE TO COME HERE TO GET ME, IF HE'S GOING TO FULFILL HIS PROMISE TO...
KNOCK KNOCK
NOW WHO...?
EVENIN', ACE. MIND IF I COME IN?
MY PLEASURE, MS. GRANT. SOMETHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?
WELL, ACTUALLY, I FOUND THIS RECIPE FOR A CARROT MILK SHAKE, AND I WAS WONDERING...
...IF I WOULD PLAY GUINEA PIG, EH?
WELL... WHY NOT? AFTER ALL, IT'S HEALTH FOOD, RIGHT? HOW BAD COULD IT...
ULP.
WELL, PETE--HOW WAS IT?
LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY, GLORY--IT WAS... UH... INTERESTING.
THAT BAD, HUH?
'FRAID SO, FRIEND. IN FACT, IT'S DOWNRIGHT AWFUL!
WELL, BACK TO THE OLD COOK BOOK! YOU HANG IN THERE, HOTSHOT!
YOU TOO, PRETTY LADY. TAKE CARE, OKAY?


BUT EVEN AS PETER GRABS A BICARBONATE AND TURNS BACK TO HIS BOOKS, WE'D BEST TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE ROOF OF AN ABANDONED WAREHOUSE ON MANHATTAN'S LOWER EAST SIDE--
--WHERE WE CAN PEEK IN THROUGH THE BUILDING'S GRIMY SKYLIGHT--
--AND OBSERVE THE DESPERATE ACTIONS OF THIS UNFORTUNATE GENTLEMAN!
FOR SOME TIME, HE HAS FEARFULLY AWAITED THE GREEN GOBLIN'S RETURN--AND NOW, HALF-CONVINCED THE GOBLIN ISN'T COMING, HE DECIDES TO MAKE HIS MOVE!
AT FIRST, HE TRIES TO FREE HIS HANDS--BUT SUCCEEDS ONLY IN DIGGING THE ROPES THAT MUCH DEEPER INTO HIS WRISTS!
THEN SLOWLY, AWKWARDLY, HE ATTEMPTS TO RISE TO HIS FEET...
...TOTTERS PRECARIOUSLY FOR A SEEMING ETERNITY...
...THEN PROCEEDS TO FALL FLAT ON HIS FACE!
IT IS AT THAT POINT, NATURALLY, THAT THE GREEN GOBLIN AT LAST RETURNS!
SO THEY DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT, EH? THE FOOLS! I'LL SHOW SILVERMANE! I'LL SHOW THEM ALL!!
THE GREEN GOBLIN NEVER PROMISES ANYTHING HE CANNOT DELIVER!!

WITH THIS BAG OF TRICKS SLUNG OVER MY SHOULDER, I AM THE MOST POWERFUL MAN ON EARTH!
THERE IS NOTHING I CANNOT ACCOMPLISH-- NOTHING THAT CAN EVER BE DENIED ME!
AND YET, THERE ARE FORCES WHICH CONSPIRE AGAINST ME!

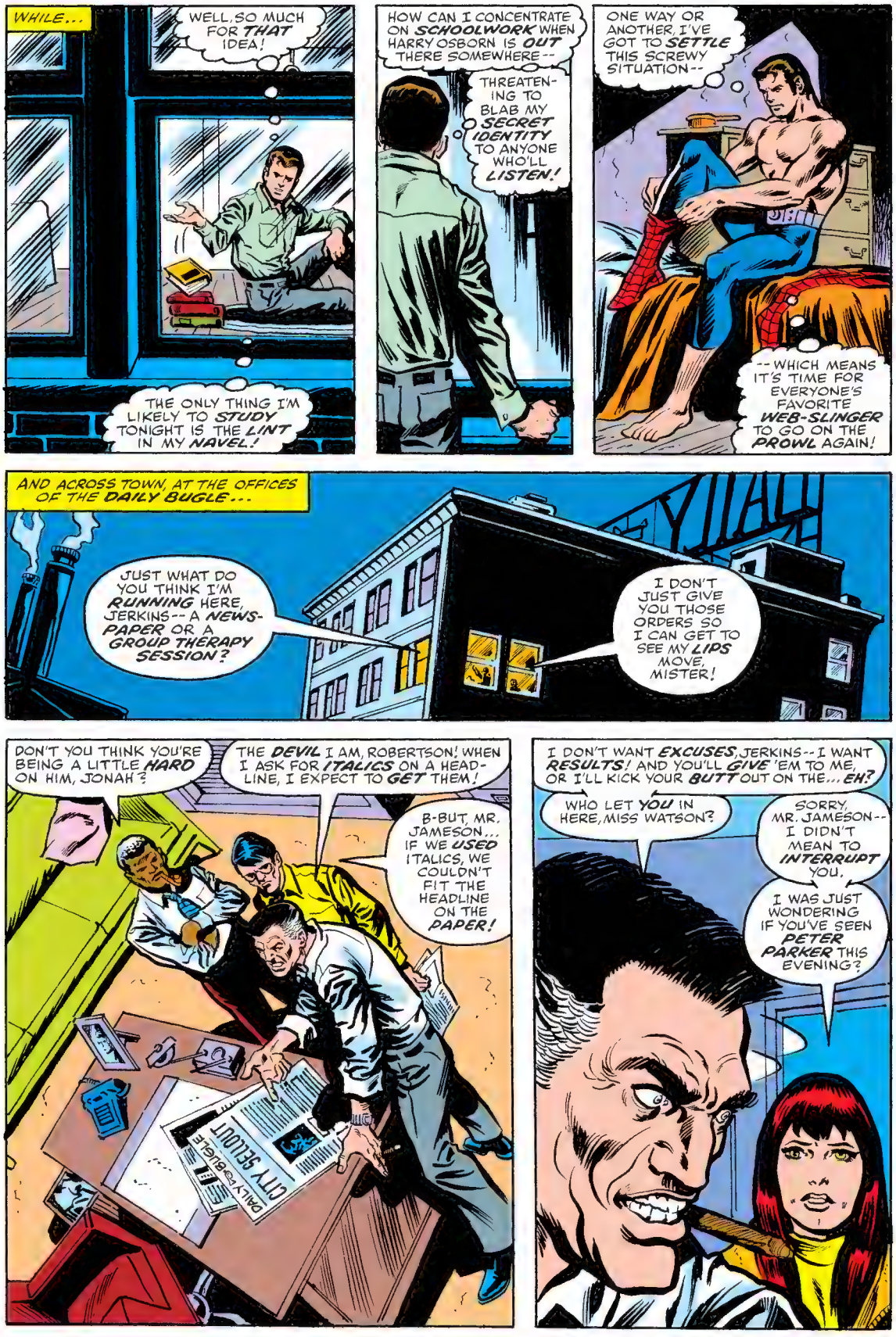

THE FIRST GREEN GOBLIN-- NORMAN OSBORN-- WAS A MASTER VILLAIN BEYOND COMPARE... BUT STILL HE WAS SLAIN BY THE INTERFERING SPIDER-MAN!*
I HAVE PLANNED FOR TOO LONG-- PLOTTED TOO CAREFULLY-- TO EVER ALLOW THE SAME FATE TO BEFALL ME!
*ACTUALLY, OSBORN WAS A VICTIM OF HIS OWN INSANITY, AS SEEN IN ISSUE #122. --LEN.

IF I'M GOING TO CAPTURE THAT CURSED WEB-SLINGER FOR SILVER-MANE AND HIS FRIENDS, I MUST CATCH HIM UNAWARE-- STRIKE WHEN HE LEAST EXPECTS IT!
MMPPHHMM!!

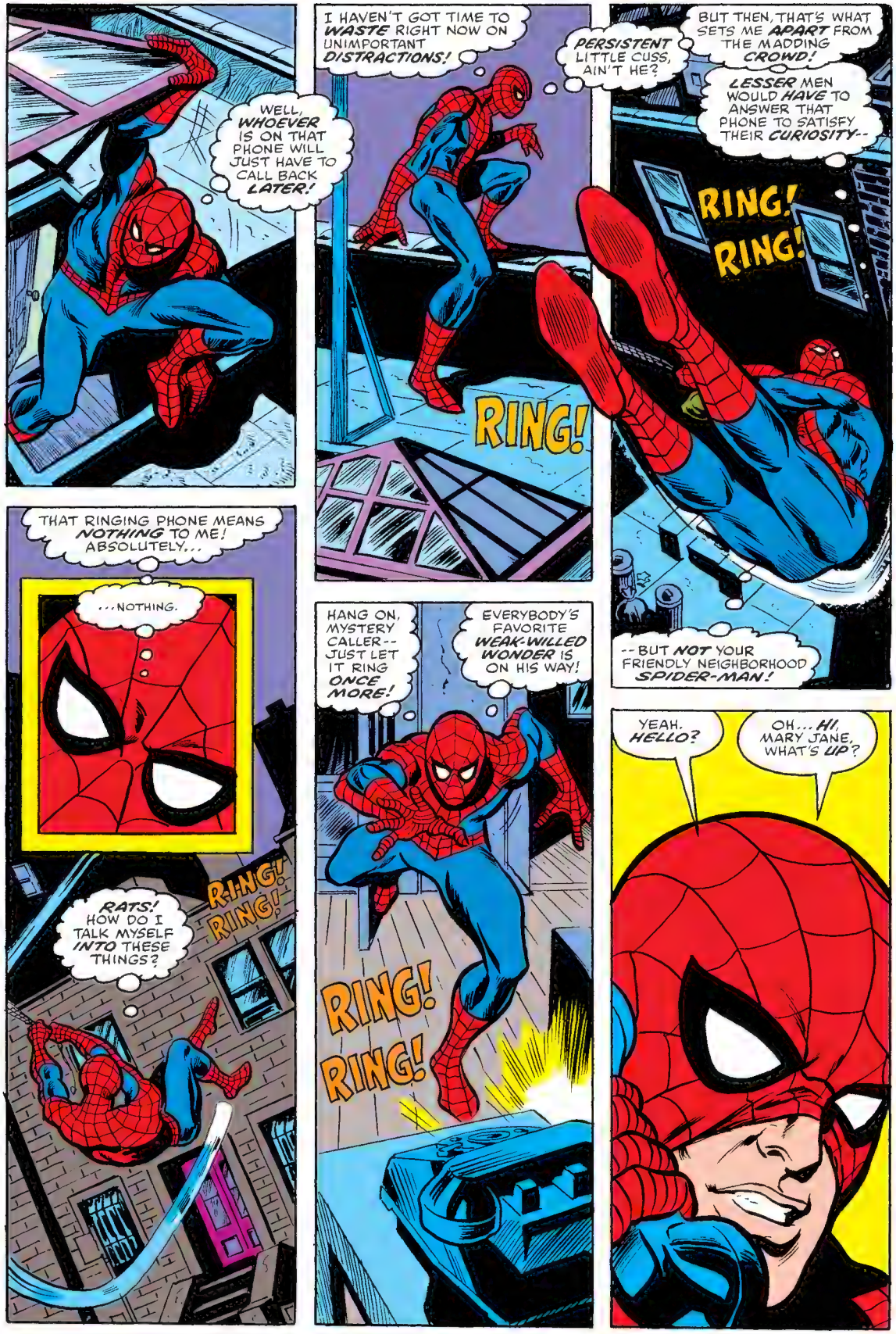
I'M MAD, DID YOU SAY?
PERHAPS, MY FRIEND... PERHAPS.
I SUPPOSE ONLY DR. BARTON HAMILTON WOULD KNOW THAT FOR CERTAIN--

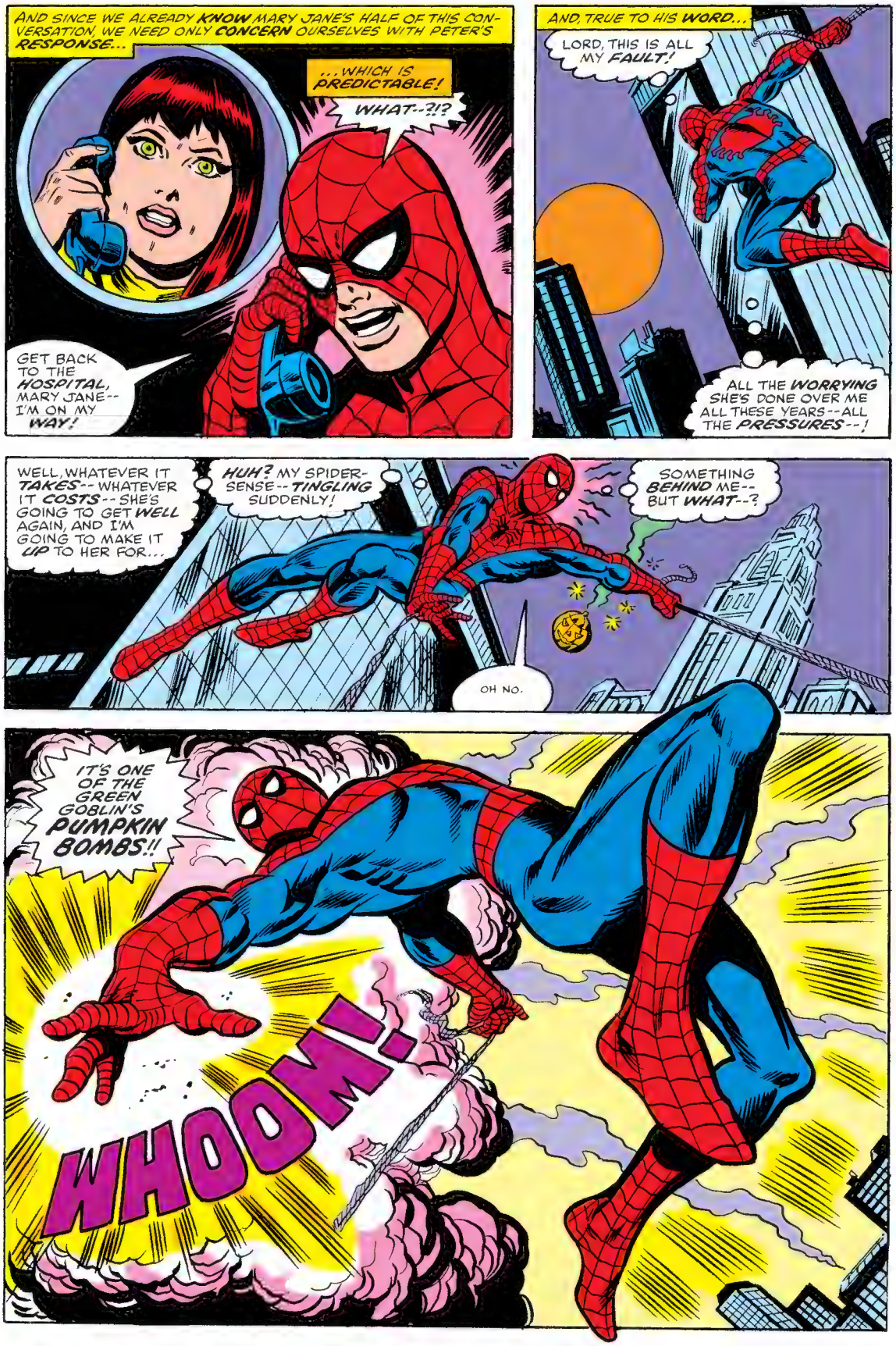
--AND HE'S NOT IN ANY POSITION TO TALK ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW...
...IS HE?
MMPPHHMM!!
SHAME ON YOU, MY FRIEND-- SUCH LANGUAGE!!

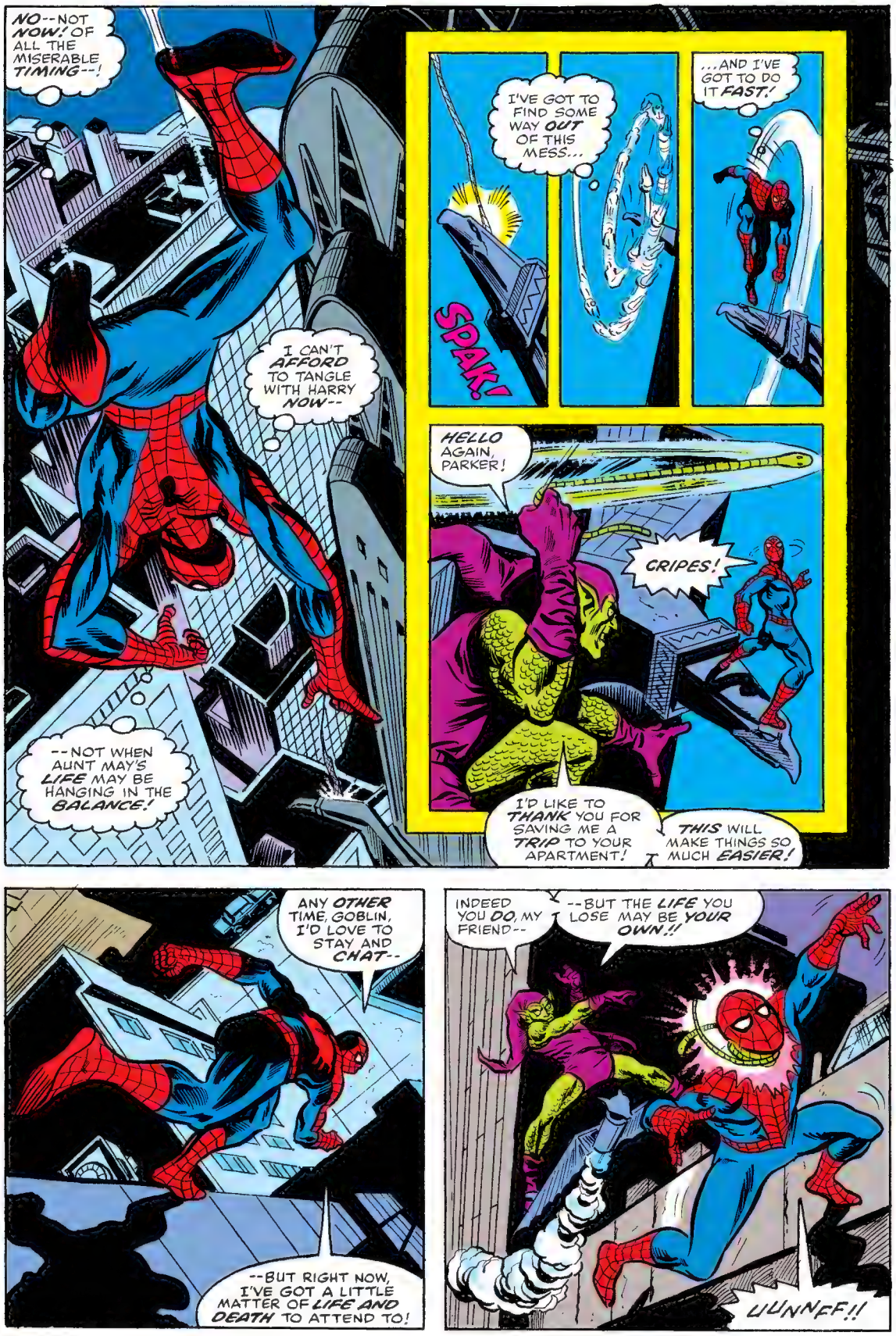
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, MY FRIEND-- I HAVE A SPIDER TO SQUASH!
OH, BY THE WAY-- PLEASE DON'T ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE AGAIN!
IF YOU DO, I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU!

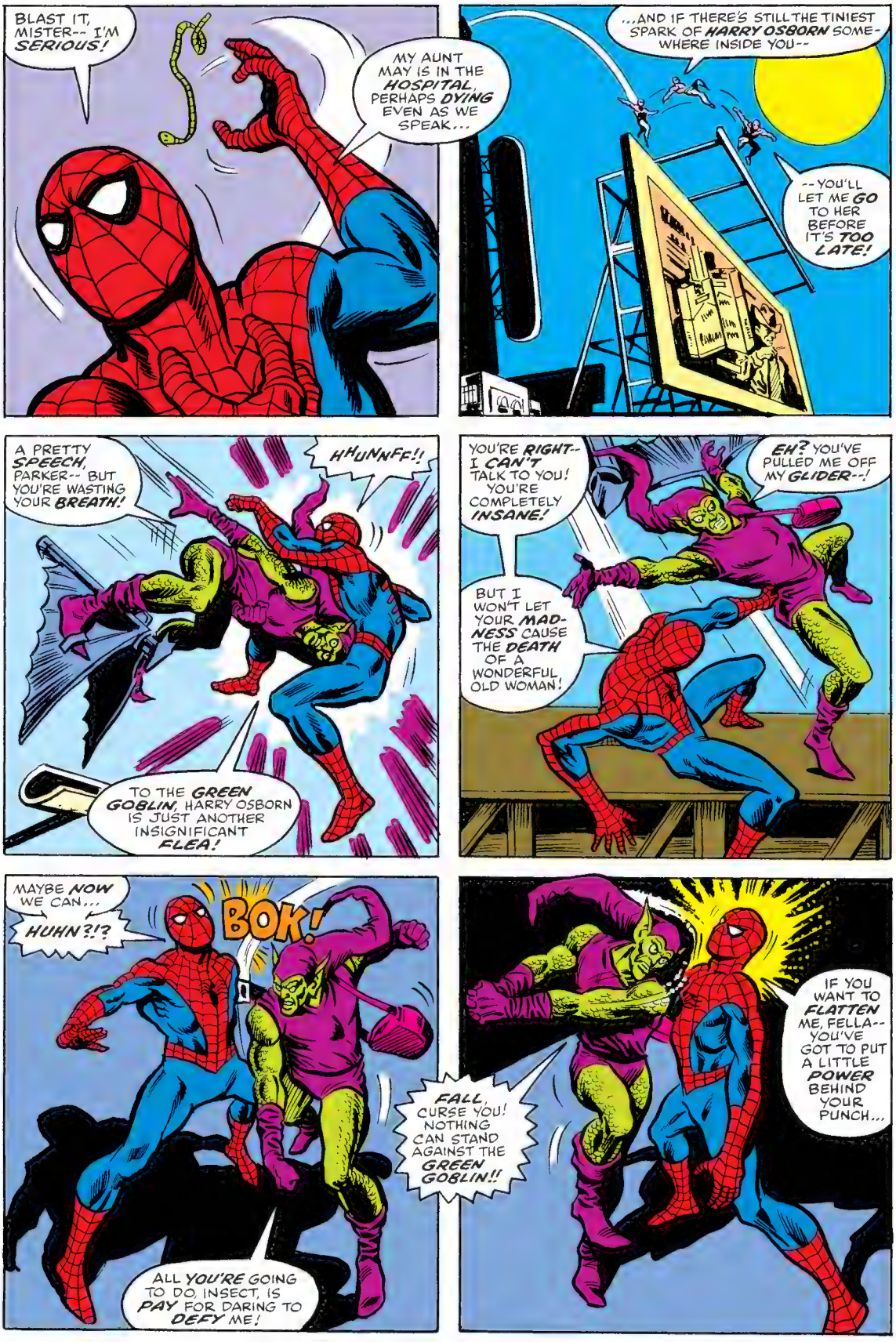

WHILE...
WELL, SO MUCH FOR THAT IDEA!
THE ONLY THING I'M LIKELY TO STUDY TONIGHT IS THE LINT IN MY NAVEL!
HOW CAN I CONCENTRATE ON SCHOOLWORK WHEN HARRY OSBORN IS OUT THERE SOMEWHERE--
THREATENING TO BLAB MY SECRET IDENTITY TO ANYONE WHO'LL LISTEN!
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I'VE GOT TO SETTLE THIS SCREWY SITUATION--
--WHICH MEANS IT'S TIME FOR EVERYONE'S FAVORITE WEB-SLINGER TO GO ON THE PROWL AGAIN!
AND ACROSS TOWN, AT THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY BUGLE...
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK I'M RUNNING HERE, JERKINS--A NEWSPAPER OR A GROUP THERAPY SESSION?
I DON'T JUST GIVE YOU THOSE ORDERS SO I CAN GET TO SEE MY LIPS MOVE, MISTER!
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE HARD ON HIM, JONAH?
THE DEVIL I AM, ROBERTSON! WHEN I ASK FOR ITALICS ON A HEADLINE, I EXPECT TO GET THEM!
B-BUT, MR. JAMESON... IF WE USED ITALICS, WE COULDN'T FIT THE HEADLINE ON THE PAPER!
CITY SELLOUT
DAILY BUGLE
I DON'T WANT EXCUSES, JERKINS--I WANT RESULTS! AND YOU'LL GIVE 'EM TO ME, OR I'LL KICK YOUR BUTT OUT ON THE... EH?
WHO LET YOU IN HERE, MISS WATSON?
SORRY, MR. JAMESON--I DIDN'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT YOU.
I WAS JUST WONDERING IF YOU'VE SEEN PETER PARKER THIS EVENING?

LOOK, THIS ISN'T A DATING SERVICE, SISTER! IF YOU CAN'T KEEP TRACK OF YOUR BOYFRIEND, DON'T EXPECT US TO DO IT!
PLEASE, MR. JAMESON-- YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--!
WE HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE TRYING TO FIND PARKER WHEN WE WANT TO FIND HIM..., WHICH ISN'T OFTEN!
I HAVE TO FIND PETER, AND SOON--
--OR HIS POOR AUNT MAY IS GOING TO DIE!!
HUH?
WELL...AH...MAYBE I WAS A LITTLE... UH...HASTY THERE.
YOU'D BETTER COME IN, MARY JANE--AND TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT!
THERE ISN'T THAT MUCH TO TELL, MR. JAMESON.
MAY PARKER HAD AN ATTACK ON THE STEPS OF CITY HALL--THEN ANOTHER ATTACK IN HER HOSPITAL ROOM!*
THE DOCTORS CAN'T OPERATE WITHOUT PETER'S PERMISSION--
--AND PETER CAN'T BE FOUND!
*THESE PAST TWO ISSUES. --LEN.
I'VE TRIED TIME AND AGAIN TO CALL HIM, BUT THERE'S NEVER ANY ANSWER! I WAS HOPING HE'D BE HERE BUT NOW...
NOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY PHONING HIM AGAIN THEN? AS THE OLD LADY WITH THE CHICKEN SOUP ONCE SAID...
IT COULDN'T HURT!
HESITANTLY, MARY JANE WATSON DIALS PETER PARKER'S NUMBER ONCE MORE, AND THIS TIME...
SWELL! NOW WHAT?
HOW CAN A PERSON HUNT DOWN A SUPER-VILLAIN WITH ALL THESE INTERRUPTIONS?
RING! RING!


WELL, WHOEVER IS ON THAT PHONE WILL JUST HAVE TO CALL BACK LATER!
I HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO WASTE RIGHT NOW ON UNIMPORTANT DISTRACTIONS!
RING!
PERSISTENT LITTLE CUSS, AIN'T HE?
BUT THEN, THAT'S WHAT SETS ME APART FROM THE MADDING CROWD!
LESSER MEN WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER THAT PHONE TO SATISFY THEIR CURIOSITY--
RING! RING!
--BUT NOT YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!
THAT RINGING PHONE MEANS NOTHING TO ME! ABSOLUTELY...
...NOTHING.
RATS! HOW DO I TALK MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS?
RING! RING!
HANG ON, MYSTERY CALLER-- JUST LET IT RING ONCE MORE!
EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE WEAK-WILLED WONDER IS ON HIS WAY!
RING! RING!
YEAH. HELLO?
OH... HI, MARY JANE, WHAT'S UP?

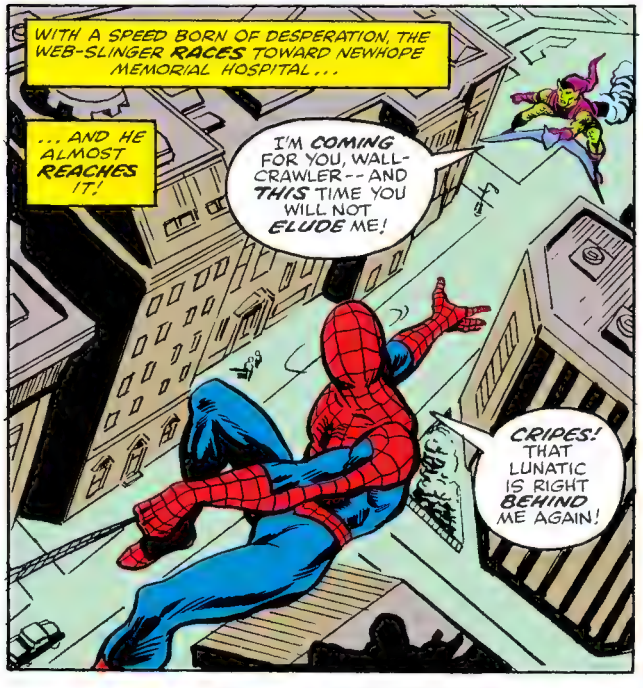

AND SINCE WE ALREADY KNOW MARY JANE'S HALF OF THIS CONVERSATION, WE NEED ONLY CONCERN OURSELVES WITH PETER'S RESPONSE...
...WHICH IS PREDICTABLE!
WHAT--?!?
GET BACK TO THE HOSPITAL, MARY JANE--I'M ON MY WAY!
AND, TRUE TO HIS WORD...
LORD, THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!
ALL THE WORRYING SHE'S DONE OVER ME ALL THESE YEARS--ALL THE PRESSURES--!
WELL, WHATEVER IT TAKES--WHATEVER IT COSTS--SHE'S GOING TO GET WELL AGAIN, AND I'M GOING TO MAKE IT UP TO HER FOR...
HUH? MY SPIDER-SENSE--TINGLING SUDDENLY!
SOMETHING BEHIND ME--BUT WHAT--?
OH NO.
IT'S ONE OF THE GREEN GOBLIN'S PUMPKIN BOMBS!!
WHOOM!


NO--NOT NOW! OF ALL THE MISERABLE TIMING--!
I CAN'T AFFORD TO TANGLE WITH HARRY NOW--
--NOT WHEN AUNT MAY'S LIFE MAY BE HANGING IN THE BALANCE!
I'VE GOT TO FIND SOME WAY OUT OF THIS MESS...
SPAK!
...AND I'VE GOT TO DO IT FAST!
HELLO AGAIN, PARKER!
CRIPES!
I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME A TRIP TO YOUR APARTMENT!
THIS WILL MAKE THINGS SO MUCH EASIER!
ANY OTHER TIME, GOBLIN, I'D LOVE TO STAY AND CHAT--
--BUT RIGHT NOW, I'VE GOT A LITTLE MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH TO ATTEND TO!
INDEED YOU DO, MY FRIEND--
--BUT THE LIFE YOU LOSE MAY BE YOUR OWN!!
UUNNFF!!


BLAST IT, MISTER-- I'M SERIOUS!
MY AUNT MAY IS IN THE HOSPITAL, PERHAPS DYING EVEN AS WE SPEAK...
...AND IF THERE'S STILL THE TINIEST SPARK OF HARRY OSBORN SOMEWHERE INSIDE YOU--
--YOU'LL LET ME GO TO HER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
A PRETTY SPEECH, PARKER-- BUT YOU'RE WASTING YOUR BREATH!
HHUNNFF!!
TO THE GREEN GOBLIN, HARRY OSBORN IS JUST ANOTHER INSIGNIFICANT FLEA!
YOU'RE RIGHT-- I CAN'T TALK TO YOU! YOU'RE COMPLETELY INSANE!
EH? YOU'VE PULLED ME OFF MY GLIDER--!
BUT I WON'T LET YOUR MADNESS CAUSE THE DEATH OF A WONDERFUL OLD WOMAN!
MAYBE NOW WE CAN...
HUHN?!?
BOK!
ALL YOU'RE GOING TO DO, INSECT, IS PAY FOR DARING TO DEFY ME!
FALL, CURSE YOU! NOTHING CAN STAND AGAINST THE GREEN GOBLIN!!
IF YOU WANT TO FLATTEN ME, FELLA-- YOU'VE GOT TO PUT A LITTLE POWER BEHIND YOUR PUNCH...

...LIKE THIS!!
SKWA-FOOM!

NO! C-COME BACK! NO ONE ESCAPES THE GREEN GOBLIN!
THINK SO, SUCKER?
THEN YOU JUST WATCH ME!


WITH A SPEED BORN OF DESPERATION, THE WEB-SLINGER RACES TOWARD NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL...
...AND HE ALMOST REACHES IT!
I'M COMING FOR YOU, WALL-CRAWLER--AND THIS TIME YOU WILL NOT ELUDE ME!
CRIPES! THAT LUNATIC IS RIGHT BEHIND ME AGAIN!

GOT TO TAKE EVASIVE ACTION...GET OUT OF THE GOBLIN'S WAY BEFORE...
NO! HE'S THROWN SOMETHING FROM HIS SHOULDER BAG AT ME--!
A... GHOST?

HUH? THAT SCREWY GHOST-THING EXPANDED IN MID-AIR--!
IT'S BECOME SOME SORT OF NETTING-- COMPLETELY ENTANGLING ME--!!
AND YOU NEED NOT STRUGGLE TO ESCAPE, INSECT!
THAT NET IS FORMED FROM A POLYMER PLASTIC-- STRONGER THAN STEEL!
NOW THERE ARE SOME ASSOCIATES OF MINE WHO ARE SIMPLY DYING TO MEET YOU--
--AND WE DON'T WANT TO KEEP THEM WAITING NOW... DO WE?
CAN'T BREAK FREE--!
PLEASE, AUNT MAY... FORGIVE ME!
WHILE, IN MAY PARKER'S HOSPITAL ROOM...
HANG ON, MRS. PARKER... PLEASE, HANG ON JUST A LITTLE WHILE LONGER!
YOUR NEPHEW PETER WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND NOW TO SIGN THE SURGICAL CONSENT FORMS...
...AND ONCE HE DOES, EVERYTHING IS GONNA BE FINE!

NEXT ISSUE:

AND IF YOU THINK THINGS CAN'T GET MUCH **WORSE**, TRUE BELIEVER, YOU'D BETTER BE HERE NEXT TIME FOR...

"RING AROUND THE GOBLIN!"

...AND YOU'LL SEE HOW **WRONG** YOU ARE!

SPIDER-MAN
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
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YOU'VE HAD IT, WEB-SLINGER! YOU CAN NEVER BEAT BOTH OF US!!
THE GOBLIN'S RIGHT! BETWEEN HIM AND SILVERMANE--I'M HELPLESS!
ANDRU & ESPOSITO
THEATER OF FURY!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®**

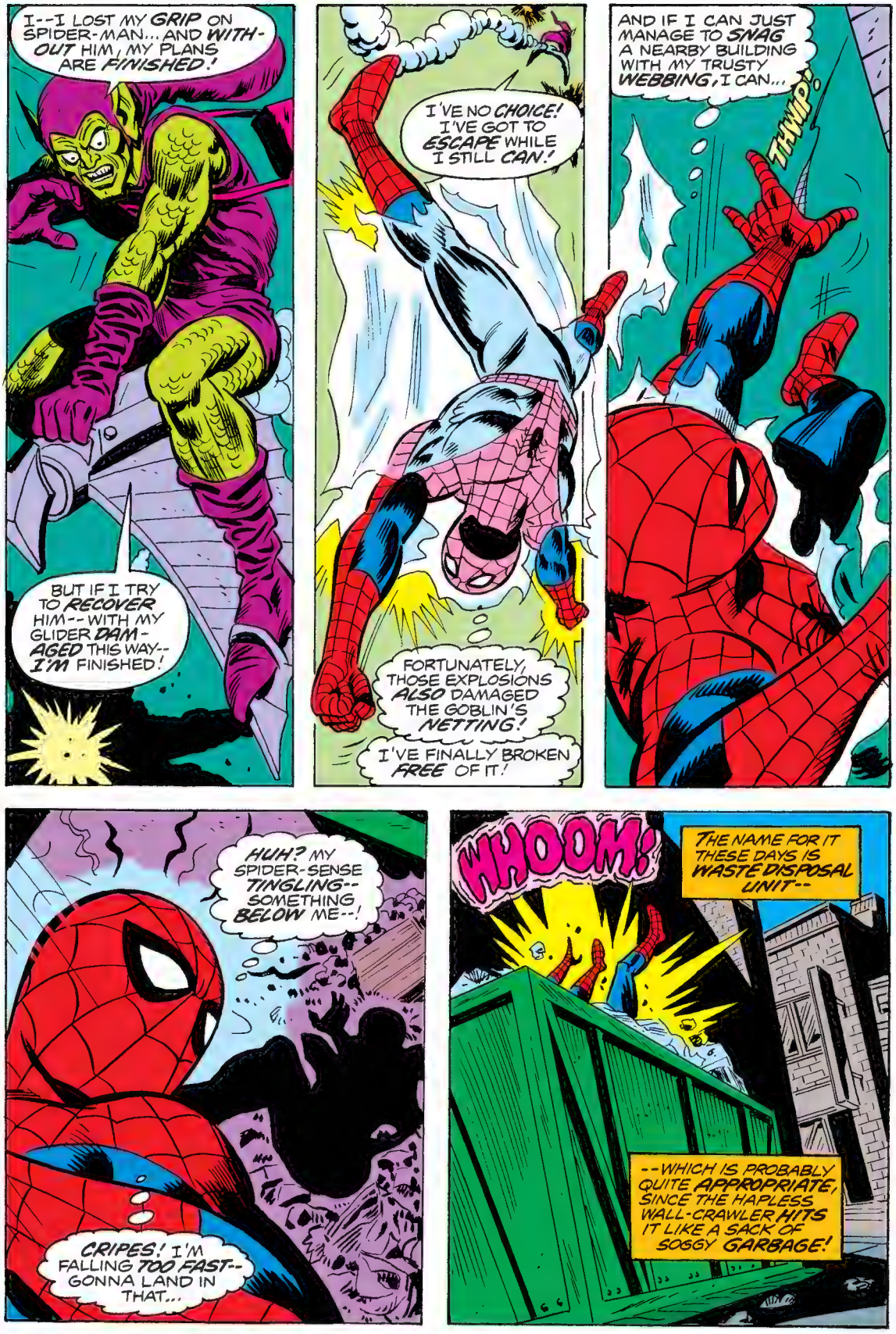
LEN WEIN WRITER/EDITOR * ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR * MIKE ESPOSITO EMBELLISHER * GLYNIS WEIN colorist * JOHN COSTANZA letterer

THE GOBLIN'S ALWAYS GREENER...!

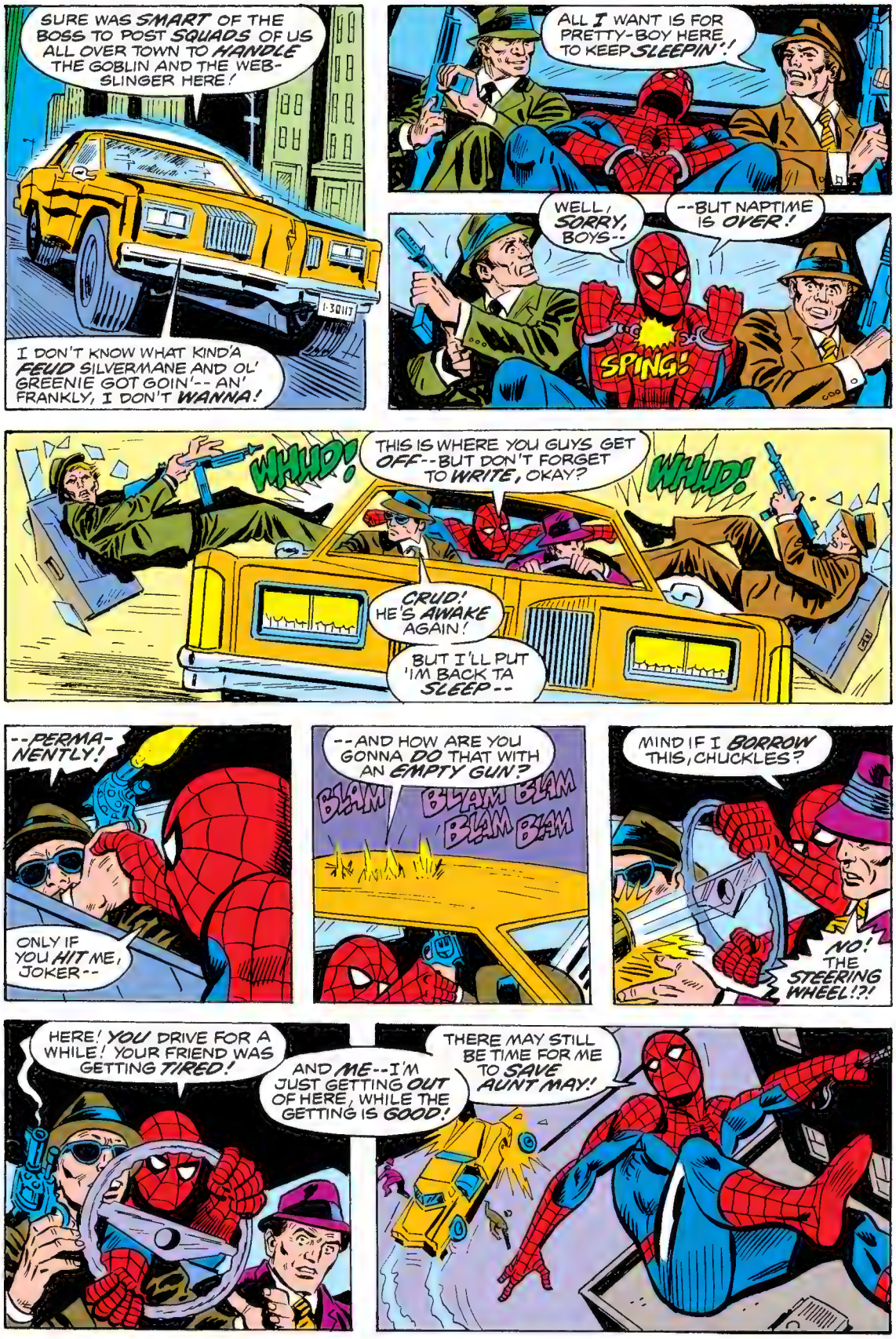
STRUGGLING WILL NOT HELP YOU, WEB-SLINGER-- THERE'S NOTHING THAT CAN SAVE YOUR HIDE THIS TIME!
BUT I HAVE TO BREAK FREE-- I HAVE TO!
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, MY POOR AUNT MAY IS DYING...
...AND I'M THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN SAVE HER!!

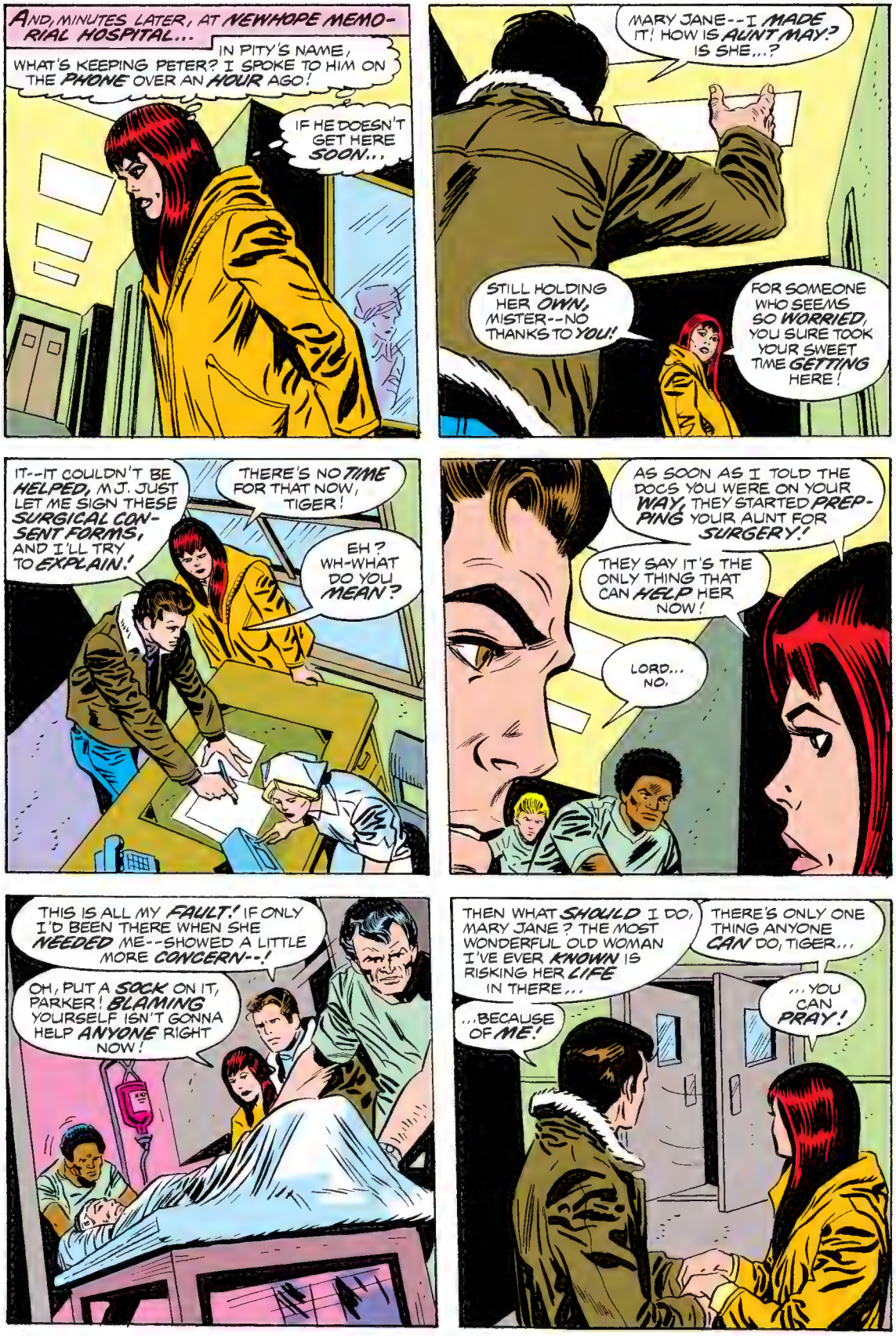
C-687

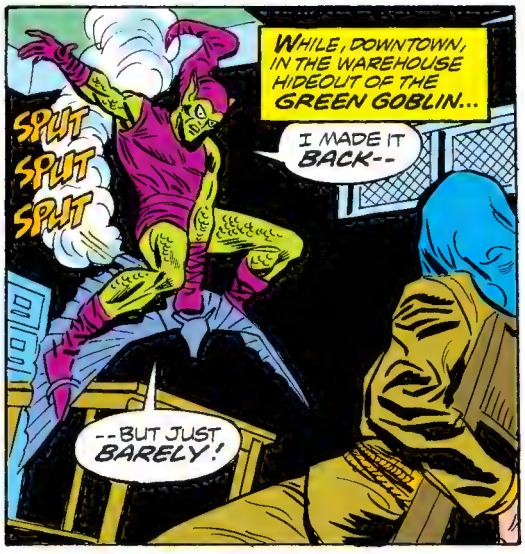
I'M ALMOST SORRY ABOUT THIS IN A WAY, PARKER-- I REALLY HAVE NOTHING AGAINST YOUR AUNT!
BUT YOU ARE THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN ME AND MY ULTIMATE GOAL--
--SO I'M AFRAID YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO CONSIDER HER A CASUALTY OF WAR!
IF I COULD JUST GET OUT OF THIS NET, I'D SHOW YOU REAL WAR, YOU LUNATIC--
--BUT THE POLYMER PLASTIC IT'S MADE OF IS STRONGER THAN STEEL!
AS SOON AS I DELIVER YOU TO THE HEADS OF THIS CITY'S UNDERWORLD, MY DREAM WILL BE REALIZED...
...AND THE GREEN GOBLIN WILL BECOME CRIME-BOSS OF ALL NEW YORK!!
NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW, WEB-SLINGER-- NOTHING!
NOW, ERNIE-- NOW!!
FWHOOSH!
WHUMP!
FRAGMENTS HAVE DAMAGED MY GLIDER-- CAN'T MAINTAIN CONTROL! I...
EH? SOME SORT OF BAZOOKA SHELLS-- BURSTING ALL AROUND ME--!?!
NO!!
OBOY.

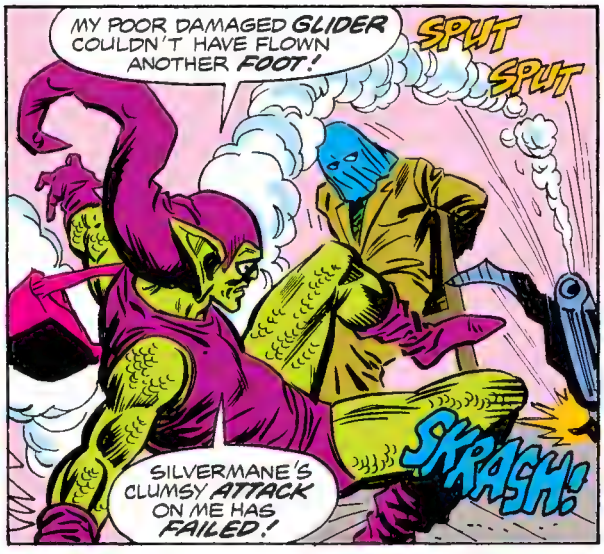

I--I LOST MY GRIP ON SPIDER-MAN... AND WITHOUT HIM, MY PLANS ARE FINISHED!
BUT IF I TRY TO RECOVER HIM--WITH MY GLIDER DAMAGED THIS WAY--I'M FINISHED!
I'VE NO CHOICE! I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE WHILE I STILL CAN!
FORTUNATELY, THOSE EXPLOSIONS ALSO DAMAGED THE GOBLIN'S NETTING!
I'VE FINALLY BROKEN FREE OF IT!
AND IF I CAN JUST MANAGE TO SNAG A NEARBY BUILDING WITH MY TRUSTY WEBBING, I CAN...
THWIP!
HUH? MY SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING--SOMETHING BELOW ME--!
CRIPES! I'M FALLING TOO FAST--GONNA LAND IN THAT...
WHOOM!
THE NAME FOR IT THESE DAYS IS WASTE DISPOSAL UNIT--
--WHICH IS PROBABLY QUITE APPROPRIATE, SINCE THE HAPLESS WALL-CRAWLER HITS IT LIKE A SACK OF SOGGY GARBAGE!

FOR A MOMENT, ALL IS SILENCE--THEN THERE COMES THE HARSH SQUEAL OF HARD-PRESSED BRAKES...
...AND THE HARSHER SNARL OF ANGRY VOICES!
HE'S HERE! I DIDN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND!
FORM
GANS
HE LANDED SMACK IN THIS STINKIN' DUMPSTER!
EASY, FELLAS! HE MIGHT BE PLAYIN' POSSUM!
YA BETTER COME OUT NOW, SPIDER-MAN--WE GOT YA COVERED!
COME OUT-- OR I'M COMIN' IN AFTER YA!
I MEAN IT, MISTER! DON'T EVEN FLINCH OR...
HUH?
SWEET HOLY JEEZ! H-HE AIN'T MOVIN'!
I--I THINK MAY-BE HE'S DEAD!
NO--WAIT! HE'S BREATHIN'-- AN' I CAN HEAR A HEARTBEAT!
HE'S ALIVE, FELLAS--
--AN' HE'S OURS!!
BETTER SNAP THESE HANDCUFFS ON 'IM BEFORE HE WAKES UP!
NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS BRING HIM TO THE BOSS!
MAN, IS SILVERMANE GONNA BE GLAD TO SEE HIM!


SURE WAS SMART OF THE BOSS TO POST SQUADS OF US ALL OVER TOWN TO HANDLE THE GOBLIN AND THE WEB-SLINGER HERE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND'A FEUD SILVERMANE AND OL' GREENIE GOT GOIN'-- AN' FRANKLY, I DON'T WANNA!
ALL I WANT IS FOR PRETTY-BOY HERE TO KEEP SLEEPIN'!
WELL, SORRY, BOYS--
--BUT NAPTIME IS OVER!
SPING!
WHUD!
THIS IS WHERE YOU GUYS GET OFF--BUT DON'T FORGET TO WRITE, OKAY?
WHUD!
CRUD! HE'S AWAKE AGAIN!
BUT I'LL PUT 'IM BACK TA SLEEP--
--PERMA-NENTLY!
ONLY IF YOU HIT ME, JOKER--
--AND HOW ARE YOU GONNA DO THAT WITH AN EMPTY GUN?
BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
MIND IF I BORROW THIS, CHUCKLES?
NO! THE STEERING WHEEL!?!
HERE! YOU DRIVE FOR A WHILE! YOUR FRIEND WAS GETTING TIRED!
AND ME--I'M JUST GETTING OUT OF HERE, WHILE THE GETTING IS GOOD!
THERE MAY STILL BE TIME FOR ME TO SAVE AUNT MAY!

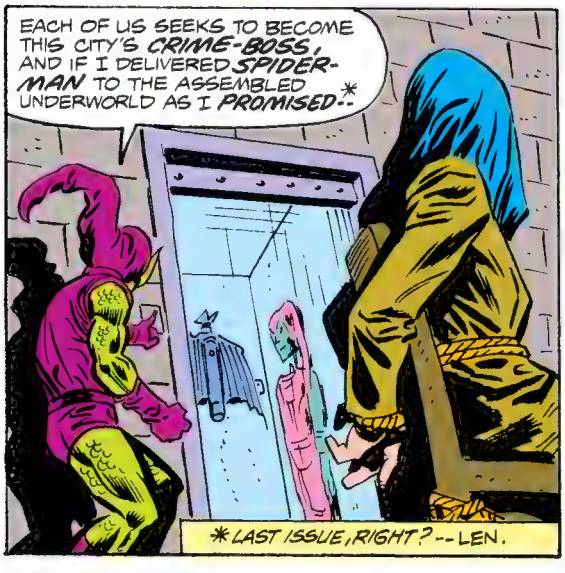

AND, MINUTES LATER, AT NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL...
IN PITY'S NAME, WHAT'S KEEPING PETER? I SPOKE TO HIM ON THE PHONE OVER AN HOUR AGO!
IF HE DOESN'T GET HERE SOON...
MARY JANE--I MADE IT! HOW IS AUNT MAY? IS SHE...?
STILL HOLDING HER OWN, MISTER--NO THANKS TO YOU!
FOR SOMEONE WHO SEEMS SO WORRIED, YOU SURE TOOK YOUR SWEET TIME GETTING HERE!
IT--IT COULDN'T BE HELPED, M.J. JUST LET ME SIGN THESE SURGICAL CONSENT FORMS, AND I'LL TRY TO EXPLAIN!
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT NOW, TIGER!
EH? WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AS SOON AS I TOLD THE DOCS YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY, THEY STARTED PREPPING YOUR AUNT FOR SURGERY!
THEY SAY IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT CAN HELP HER NOW!
LORD... NO,
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT! IF ONLY I'D BEEN THERE WHEN SHE NEEDED ME--SHOWED A LITTLE MORE CONCERN--!
OH, PUT A SOCK ON IT, PARKER! BLAMING YOURSELF ISN'T GONNA HELP ANYONE RIGHT NOW!
THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO, MARY JANE? THE MOST WONDERFUL OLD WOMAN I'VE EVER KNOWN IS RISKING HER LIFE IN THERE...
...BECAUSE OF ME!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING ANYONE CAN DO, TIGER...
...YOU CAN PRAY!


WHILE, DOWNTOWN, IN THE WAREHOUSE HIDEOUT OF THE GREEN GOBLIN...
I MADE IT BACK--
SPUT
SPUT
SPUT
--BUT JUST BARELY!

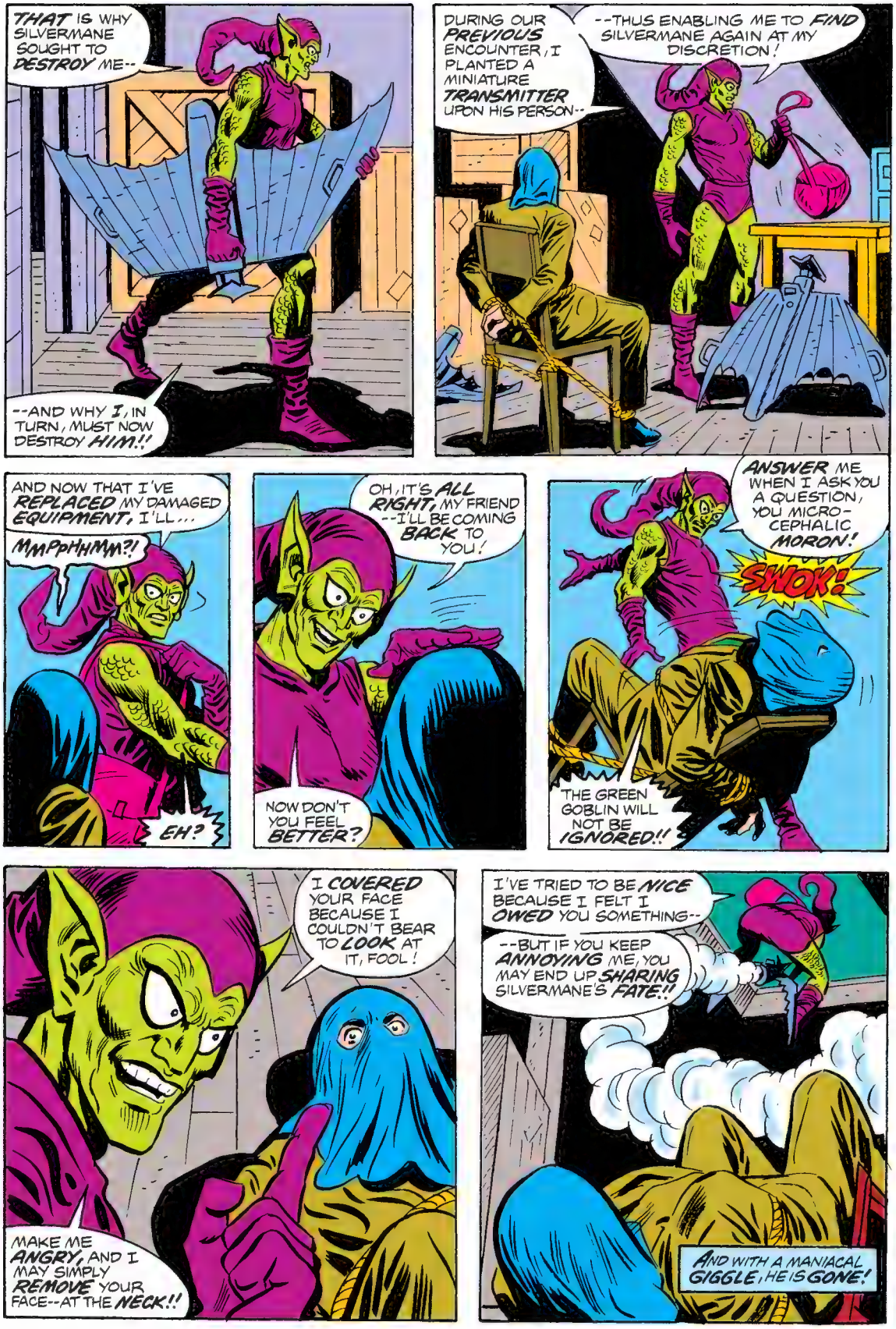

MY POOR DAMAGED GLIDER COULDN'T HAVE FLOWN ANOTHER FOOT!
SPUT
SPUT
SILVERMANE'S CLUMSY ATTACK ON ME HAS FAILED!
SKRASH!

AND BEFORE I AM DONE, HE SHALL PAY FOR CAUSING ME SUCH INDIGNITY!
LORD, HOW HE WILL PAY!!

MMPPHHMM?!
WHY DID HE DO IT, YOU ASK? I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT THE ANSWER WOULD BE OBVIOUS, MY FRIEND!
SILVERMANE AND I BOTH COVET THE SAME POSITION!


EACH OF US SEEKS TO BECOME THIS CITY'S CRIME-BOSS, AND IF I DELIVERED SPIDER-MAN TO THE ASSEMBLED UNDERWORLD AS I PROMISED--*
*LAST ISSUE, RIGHT?--LEN.

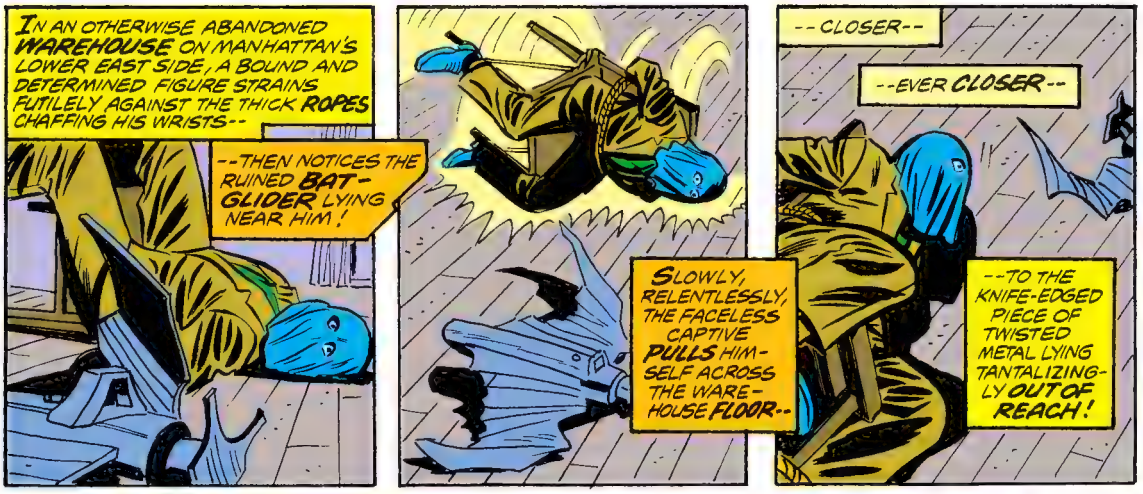
--SILVERMANE'S CHANCES OF SUCCESS WOULD BE SHATTERED IRREVOCABLY!

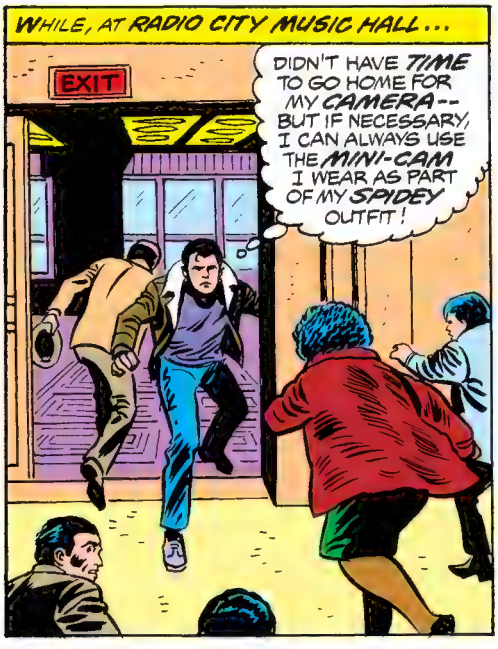

THAT IS WHY SILVERMANE SOUGHT TO DESTROY ME--
--AND WHY I, IN TURN, MUST NOW DESTROY HIM!!
DURING OUR PREVIOUS ENCOUNTER, I PLANTED A MINIATURE TRANSMITTER UPON HIS PERSON--
--THUS ENABLING ME TO FIND SILVERMANE AGAIN AT MY DISCRETION!
AND NOW THAT I'VE REPLACED MY DAMAGED EQUIPMENT, I'LL...
MMPPHHMM?!
EH?
OH, IT'S ALL RIGHT, MY FRIEND --I'LL BE COMING BACK TO YOU!
NOW DON'T YOU FEEL BETTER?
ANSWER ME WHEN I ASK YOU A QUESTION, YOU MICRO-CEPHALIC MORON!
SWOK!
THE GREEN GOBLIN WILL NOT BE IGNORED!!
I COVERED YOUR FACE BECAUSE I COULDN'T BEAR TO LOOK AT IT, FOOL!
MAKE ME ANGRY, AND I MAY SIMPLY REMOVE YOUR FACE--AT THE NECK!!
I'VE TRIED TO BE NICE BECAUSE I FELT I OWED YOU SOMETHING--
--BUT IF YOU KEEP ANNOYING ME, YOU MAY END UP SHARING SILVERMANE'S FATE!!
AND WITH A MANIACAL GIGGLE, HE IS GONE!

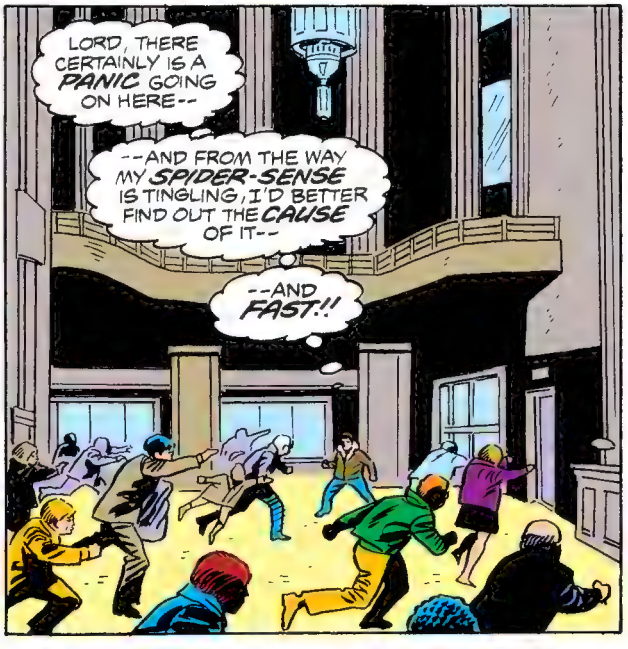
AT NEWHOPE MEMORIAL, THE SECONDS PASS LIKE HOURS, THE MINUTES LIKE DAYS, AS AN APPREHENSIVE PETER PARKER AND HIS FRIENDS KEEP WAITING... WAITING...
THANK YOU FOR COMING, MR. ROBERTSON.
YOU COULDN'T HAVE KEPT ME AWAY, MARY JANE.
THERE WAS NO WAY I'D LET PETER GO THROUGH SOMETHING LIKE THIS ALONE!
THANKS, ROBBIE. I... I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT.
DON'T MENTION IT, SON. YOU KNOW HOW JONAH AND I BOTH FEEL ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER EMPLOYEE TO US, PETE.
YEAH, ROBBIE... I KNOW. MAYBE. THAT'S PART OF WHAT'S BOTHERING ME!
WELL... TO ME, AT LEAST.
ALL MY LIFE, IT'S BEEN ONE EXTREME OR THE OTHER!
AT HOME, I WAS THE CENTER OF AUNT MAY AND UNCLE BEN'S LIFE-- SOMEONE SPECIAL! AT SCHOOL, IT WAS JUST THE OPPOSITE!
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FORMULATE AN HONEST OPINION OF MYSELF!
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT JUST WHO I REALLY AM!
AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE REST OF US, PETER?
ALL ANYONE TRULY WANTS IN THIS LIFE IS TO FIND A PLACE IN THE SUN!
BUT IT'S THE SEARCHING THAT MAKES THE FINDING SO SWEET!
UH... IS THERE A PETER PARKER HERE?
I'M PARKER.
THEN I HAVE NEWS FOR YOU ABOUT YOUR AUNT!

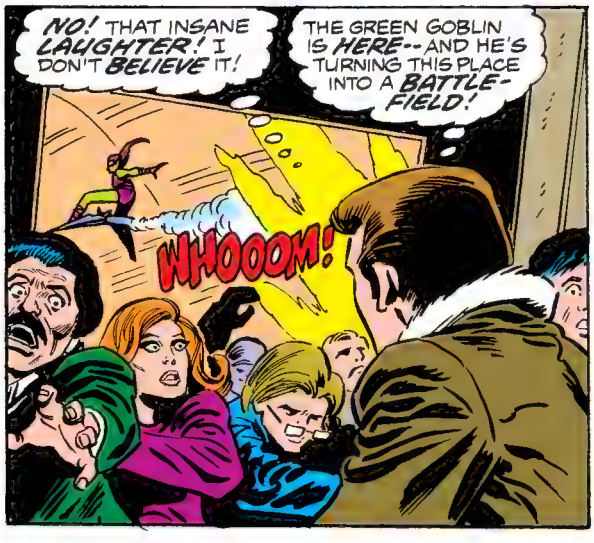
NEXT TO TINSEL-TOSSED HOLLYWOOD, THERE ARE THOSE WHO CLAIM THAT NEW YORK IS TRULY THE ENTERTAINMENT CAPITAL OF THE WORLD. CASE IN POINT, THE NEW DISNEY MOVIE AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL!
RADIO CITY
IT HAD OPENED TO MIXED REVIEWS-- BUT STILL, THE WEEKEND CROWDS HAVE BEEN PACKING THE SPRAWLING THEATRE TO ITS UPPERMOST BALCONY--
--AS MUCH TO WITNESS THE MUSIC HALL'S FAR-FAMED STAGE SHOW AS ANYTHING ELSE!
THE RADIO CITY ROCKETTES, SEVERAL DOZEN FETCHINGLY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, DANCING WITH ALMOST-MECHANICAL PRECISION!
AMONG THOSE IN THE AUDIENCE TONIGHT ARE A COUPLE FROM DULUTH CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY, THE CAPTAIN OF THE BATON ROUGE BOOSTERS MEMORIAL GLEE CLUB--
--AND SILVERMANE, WOULD-BE KING OF THE UNDERWORLD!
OH, AND ONE OTHER!
HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
IT SOUNDS LIKE... LAUGHTER!
NO! IT COULDN'T BE! NOT HERE!
IT'S THE CURSED-- GREEN GOBLIN!!
AND THIS TIME, SILVERMANE, I'M GOING TO FINISH WHAT I STARTED!
HA HA HA HA HA

WHILE, BACK AT NEWHOPE MEMORIAL...
THEN AUNT MAY WILL BE ALL RIGHT?
SO LONG AS SHE DOESN'T EXERT HERSELF -- OR LET ANYTHING UPSET HER!
DON'T WORRY, DOC. AS OF NOW, HER GREY PANTHER CAREER IS OVER!
MR. ROBERTSON...?
THERE'S A CALL FOR YOU OUT IN THE HALL, SIR.
THAT'S PROBABLY J. JONAH JAMESON!
REALLY? HE SOUNDED LIKE HE WAS HAVING A FIT!
HE MUST BE IN A GOOD MOOD. HE USUALLY SOUNDS WORSE!
YEAH, JONAH. WHAT'S UP?
UH-HUH. PARKER IS WITH ME NOW!
YOU WANT HIM TO WHAT? JONAH, HAVE A HEART! HE'S...
YEAH, I,,, I UNDERSTAND I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
HEY, YOU OKAY, ROBBIE? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU JUST BIT YOUR TONGUE!
I WISH I HAD, PETE. THEN I WOULDN'T HAVE TO SAY THIS!
SAY WHAT, ROB?
THERE'S SOME SORT OF RIOT GOING ON AT RADIO CITY, PETE--AND JONAH WANTS YOU THERE TO TAKE PHOTOS!
YOU'RE KIDDING!?
ACTUALLY, PETE--IT MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A BAD IDEA! IT'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO KEEP YOU OCCUPIED TILL YOUR AUNT WAKES UP!
IT'S TRUE. AUNT MAY'S ANESTHESIA WON'T WEAR OFF FOR SEVERAL HOURS YET!
OKAY, ROBBIE--I'LL DO IT!
PETER, WH-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO HERE RIGHT NOW, MRS. WATSON--AND DUTY IS CALLING!
DON'T WORRY THOUGH--I'LL BE AT AUNT MAY'S BEDSIDE WHEN SHE AWAKENS!
THIS TIME, TIGER--YOU'D BETTER BE!


IN AN OTHERWISE ABANDONED WAREHOUSE ON MANHATTAN'S LOWER EAST SIDE, A BOUND AND DETERMINED FIGURE STRAINS FUTILELY AGAINST THE THICK ROPES CHAFFING HIS WRISTS--
--THEN NOTICES THE RUINED BAT-GLIDER LYING NEAR HIM!
SLOWLY, RELENTLESSLY, THE FACELESS CAPTIVE PULLS HIMSELF ACROSS THE WAREHOUSE FLOOR--
--CLOSER--
--EVER CLOSER--
--TO THE KNIFE-EDGED PIECE OF TWISTED METAL LYING TANTALIZINGLY OUT OF REACH!


WHILE, AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL...
EXIT
DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GO HOME FOR MY CAMERA-- BUT IF NECESSARY, I CAN ALWAYS USE THE MINI-CAM I WEAR AS PART OF MY SPIDEY OUTFIT!

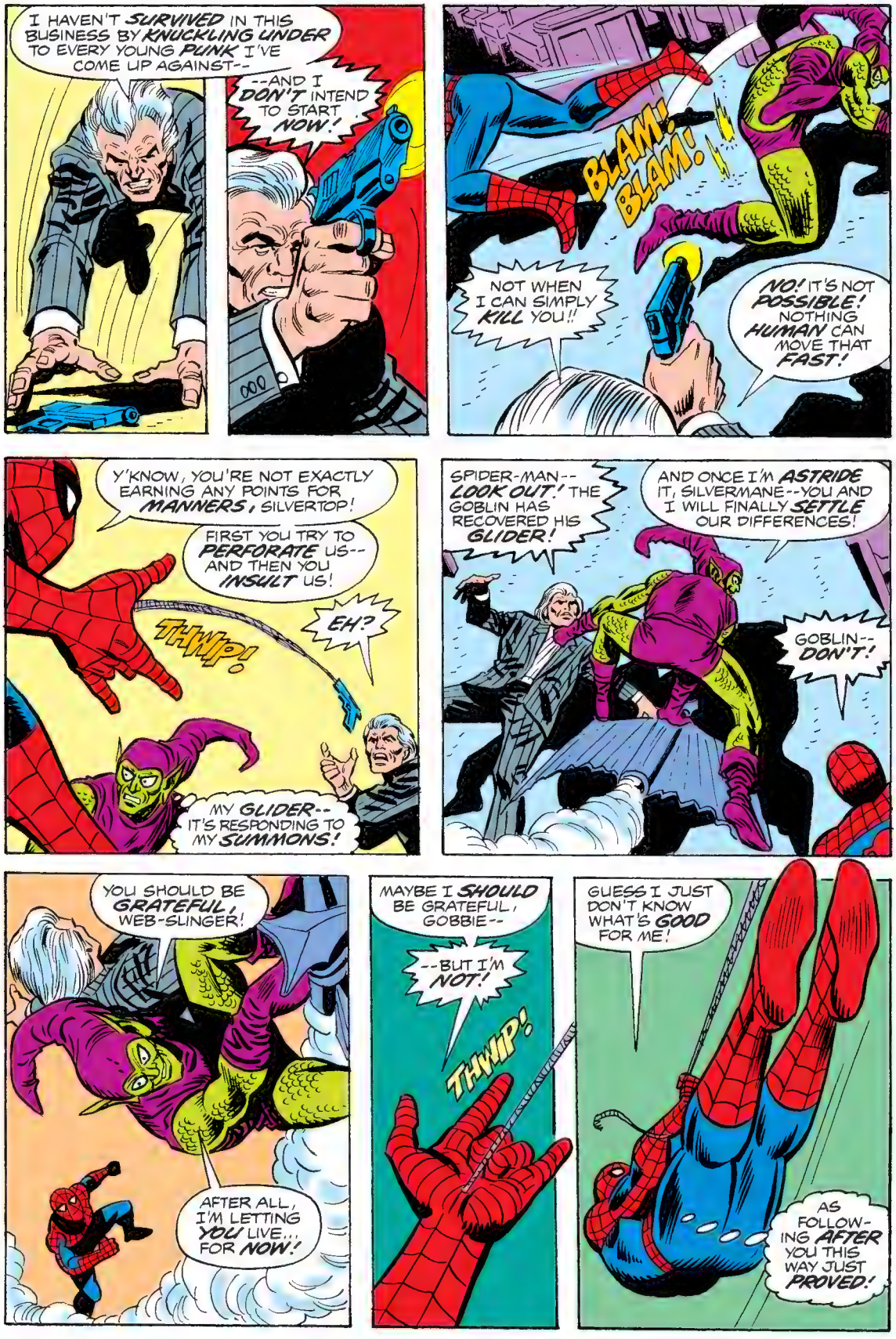

LORD, THERE CERTAINLY IS A PANIC GOING ON HERE--
--AND FROM THE WAY MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING, I'D BETTER FIND OUT THE CAUSE OF IT--
--AND FAST!!


NO! THAT INSANE LAUGHTER! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
THE GREEN GOBLIN IS HERE--AND HE'S TURNING THIS PLACE INTO A BATTLE-FIELD!
WHOOOM!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT BROUGHT HARRY HERE--
--WHAT SORT OF TWISTED LOGIC PROVOKED HIM INTO ENDANGERING ALL THESE INNOCENT PEOPLE--

--BUT I DO KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO STOP HIM...
...ME!!
KEEP FIRIN'! FELLAS! WE GOTTA PROTECT THE BOSS FROM THAT HIGH-FLYIN' FRUITCAKE!
WE'RE TRYIN'-- BUT WE CAN'T GET A BEAD ON 'IM!
BLAM!
BYUD-UD-AH
WHOOM!
THE FOOLS HAVEN'T A PRAYER AGAINST THE GOBLIN...
NO
...BUT THEY WILL KEEP HIM OCCUPIED LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO REACH THE EXIT!
N-NO! H-HE'S COMING THIS WAY!
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE...
OH!
YOU LITTLE FOOL! YOU'VE STUMBLED RIGHT INTO MY PATH!
AND HERE IS WHERE YOU STUMBLE OUT OF MY PATH, SILVER-MANE--PERMANENTLY!
MY GOBLIN-SPARKS WILL MAKE YOU SIZZLE LIKE A...
WHA--?!?
THWAK!
WHAT NOW??

I COULD SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU, GOBLIN--
--BUT WHY RUIN YOUR ENTIRE NIGHT?
YOU AGAIN?!? YOU WERE A FOOL TO FOLLOW ME HERE, WEBHEAD!
I NO LONGER HAVE ANYTHING TO GAIN BY KEEPING YOU ALIVE!
IF THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A THREAT, GREENIE--I'M NOT EXACTLY PANIC-STRICKEN!
I FIGURE THERE'S NOT MUCH YOU CAN DO TO ME WHILE YOU'RE DANGLING FROM MY WEB-LINE!
UNFORTUNATELY, WALL-CRAWLER, YOU FIGURE WRONG!
CRIPES! THE GOBLIN'S GLIDER--!?
HE'S DIRECTING IT BY REMOTE CONTROL!
WHAM!
SPIDER-MAN IS FINISHED, SILVERMANE! NOW IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US!
I HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU, GOBLIN--BUT I DON'T FINISH ALL THAT EASILY!
THEN PERHAPS I CAN HELP SPEED YOU ALONG YOUR WAY!
HHUUNNFF?!?
HHUMP!


I HAVEN'T SURVIVED IN THIS BUSINESS BY KNUCKLING UNDER TO EVERY YOUNG PUNK I'VE COME UP AGAINST--
--AND I DON'T INTEND TO START NOW!
BLAM! BLAM!
NOT WHEN I CAN SIMPLY KILL YOU!!
NO! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! NOTHING HUMAN CAN MOVE THAT FAST!
Y'KNOW, YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY EARNING ANY POINTS FOR MANNERS, SILVERTOP!
FIRST YOU TRY TO PERFORATE US-- AND THEN YOU INSULT US!
EH?
THWIP!
MY GLIDER-- IT'S RESPONDING TO MY SUMMONS!
SPIDER-MAN-- LOOK OUT! THE GOBLIN HAS RECOVERED HIS GLIDER!
AND ONCE I'M ASTRIDE IT, SILVERMANE--YOU AND I WILL FINALLY SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES!
GOBLIN-- DON'T!
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL, WEB-SLINGER!
AFTER ALL, I'M LETTING YOU LIVE... FOR NOW!
MAYBE I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL, GOBBIE--
--BUT I'M NOT!
THWIP!
GUESS I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR ME!
AS FOLLOWING AFTER YOU THIS WAY JUST PROVED!

HANG ON, SILVERMANE-- I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THIS MESS!
GET OFF, WEB-SLINGER-- GET OFF!!
THOUGH, FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I DON'T KNOW WHY!
MY GLIDER ISN'T POWERFUL ENOUGH TO SUPPORT THE THREE OF US!
NOW YOU'VE REALLY DONE IT, YOU FOOL! WE'RE FALLING!!
AND FROM THIS HEIGHT, NOT ONE OF US IS LIKELY TO SURVIVE!!
WHICH MAKES IT A REALLY LOUSY TIME FOR MY WEBBING TO SNAP UNDER THE STRAIN!
IT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT STOOD BETWEEN US AND OBLIVION-- AND NOW IT'S GONE!!

IT HAS BEEN A LONG, HARD STRUGGLE, CROSSING THE DUSTY WAREHOUSE FLOOR--
--TWISTING HIS NUMBED BODY AROUND UNTIL HE COULD FINALLY TOUCH THE FALLEN BAT-GLIDER--
--THEN RUBBING HIS ROPE-BURNED WRISTS BACK AND FORTH ALONG THE METAL'S ROUGHENED EDGE, AGAIN AND YET AGAIN...
...BUT, ALL IN ALL, IT HAS BEEN WORTH IT!
HIS HEAD FAIRLY SWIMS AS HE UNTIES THE CONSTRICTING ROPES--
--AND FEELS HIS BLOOD BEGIN TO CIRCULATE ONCE MORE--
--FOR IT IS BLOOD THAT ALL BUT BOILS IN FRUSTRATED FURY!
LEAVE US FACE IT, FOLKS: AFTER ALL THIS TIME IN HELPLESS CAPTIVITY...
...HARRY OSBORN IS FURIOUS!!
AND HE INTENDS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!
NEXT ISSUE:
IF HARRY OSBORN WAS THE CAPTIVE, THEN WHO...? BE WITH US NEXT TIME FOR...
WHO WAS THAT GOBLIN I SAW YOU WITH?
...AND PERHAPS WE'LL ALL FIND OUT!

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
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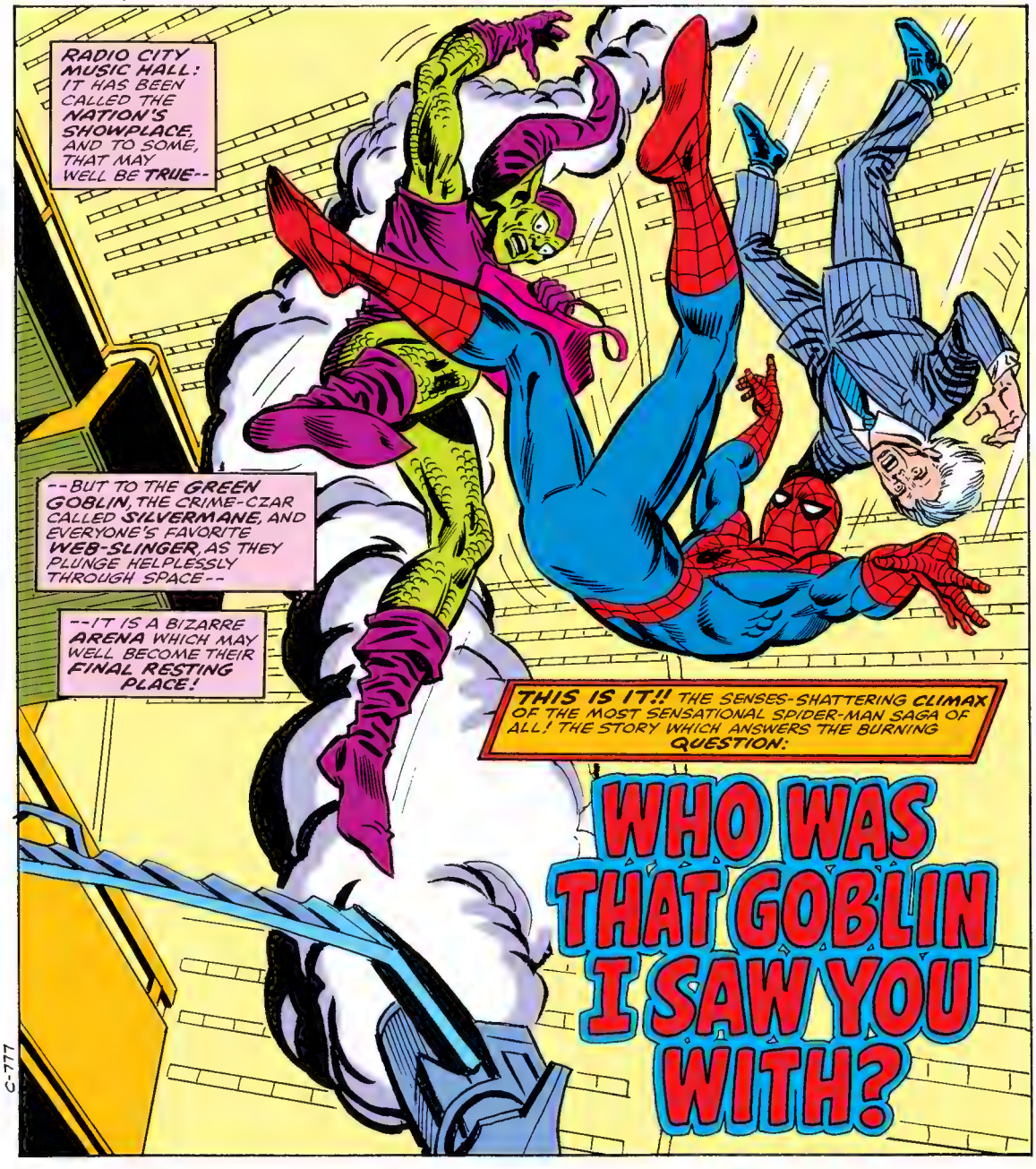
NO!! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! YOU CAN'T BE THE GREEN GOBLIN!!
YOU'RE RIGHT, WEBHEAD-- HE ISN'T THE GOBLIN! I AM!!
ANDRU ESPO
THIS IS IT!! THE CLIMAX OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL SPIDEY SAGA OF ALL!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN — WRITER / EDITOR ✶ ROSS ANDRU — ILLUSTRATOR ✶ MIKE ESPOSITO — EMBELLISHER ✶ GLYNIS WEIN — COLORIST ✶ JOE ROSEN — LETTERER


RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL: IT HAS BEEN CALLED THE NATION'S SHOWPLACE, AND TO SOME, THAT MAY WELL BE TRUE--
--BUT TO THE GREEN GOBLIN, THE CRIME-CZAR CALLED SILVERMANE, AND EVERYONE'S FAVORITE WEB-SLINGER, AS THEY PLUNGE HELPLESSLY THROUGH SPACE--
--IT IS A BIZARRE ARENA WHICH MAY WELL BECOME THEIR FINAL RESTING PLACE!
THIS IS IT!! THE SENSES-SHATTERING CLIMAX OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN SAGA OF ALL! THE STORY WHICH ANSWERS THE BURNING QUESTION:
WHO WAS THAT GOBLIN I SAW YOU WITH?

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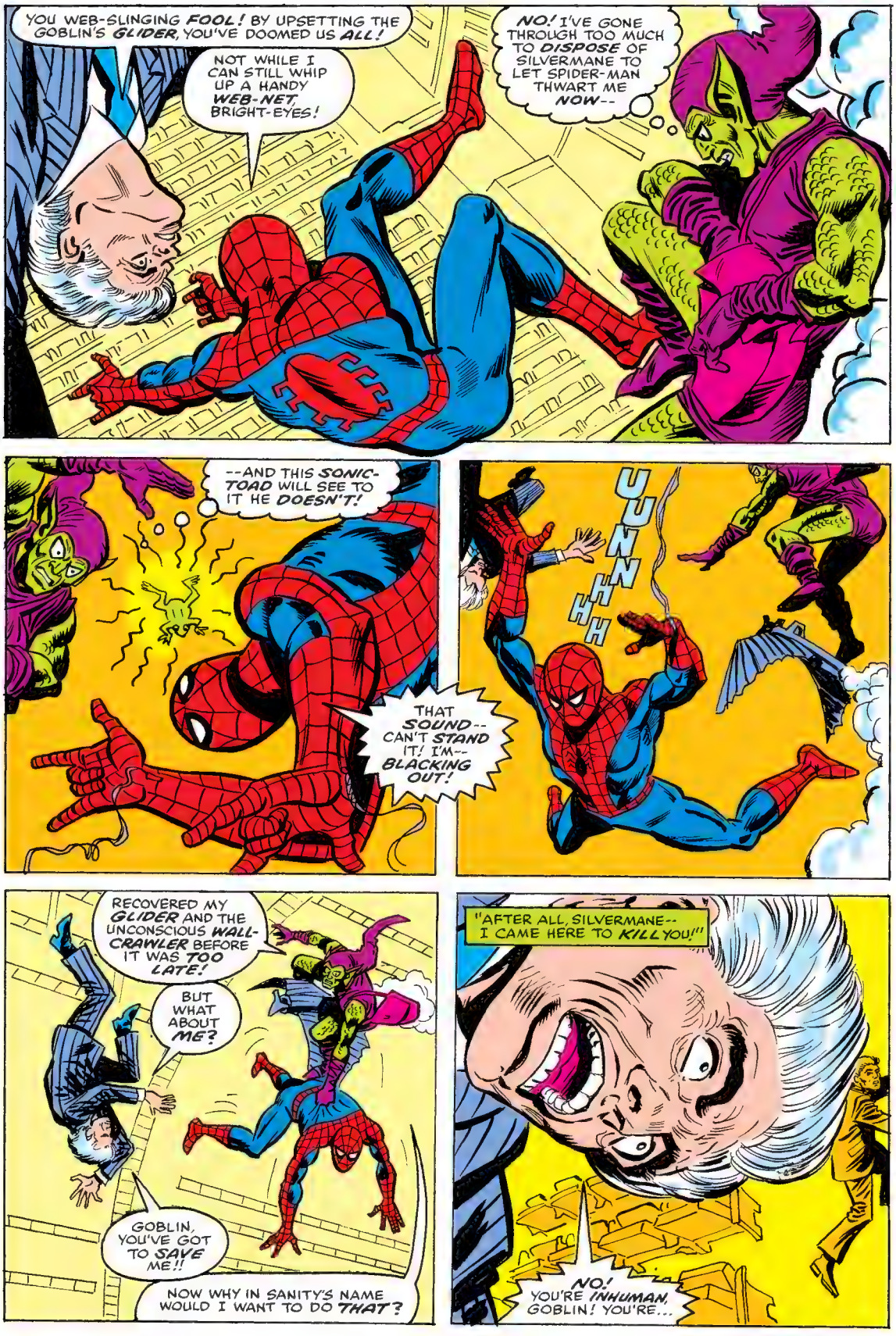
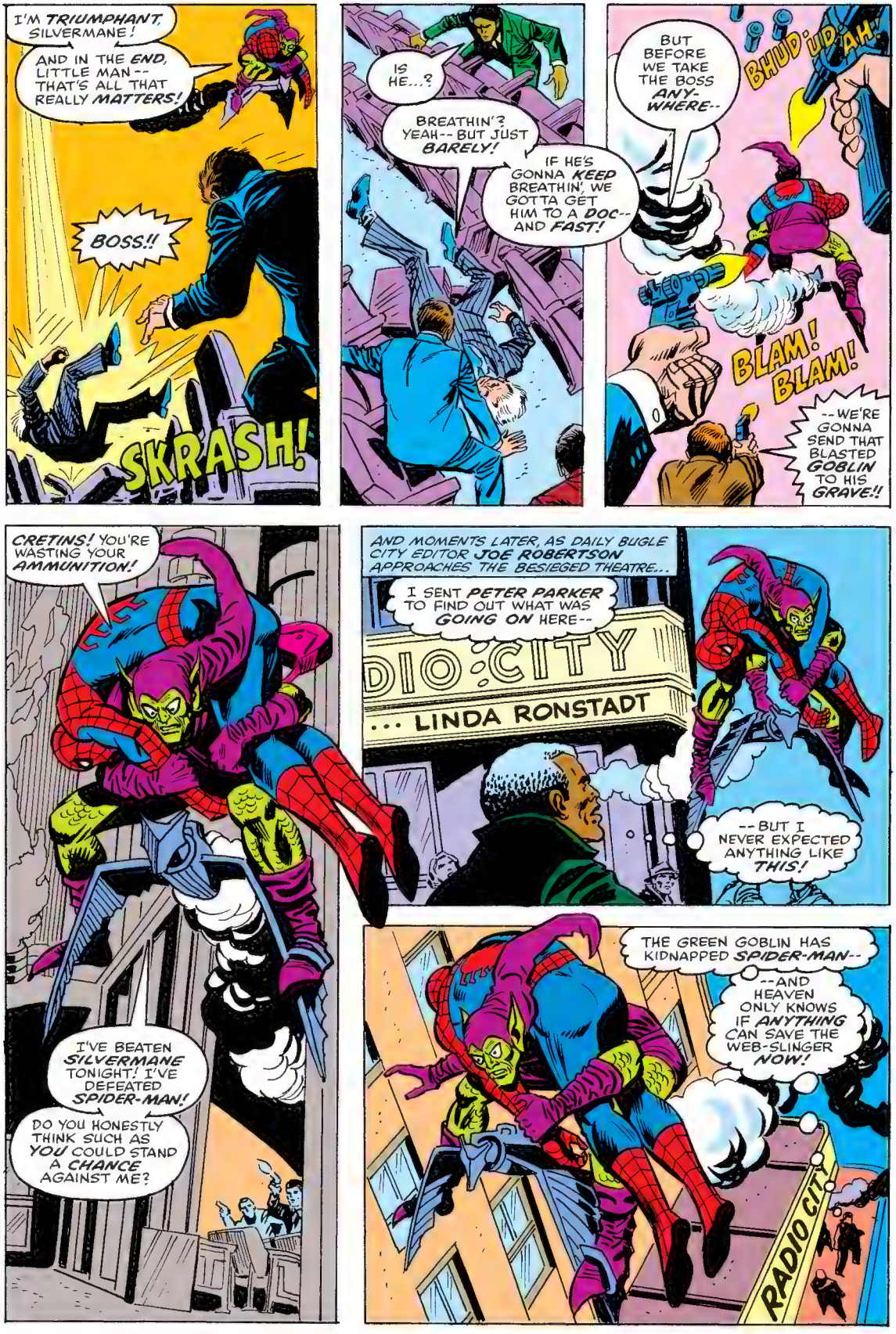
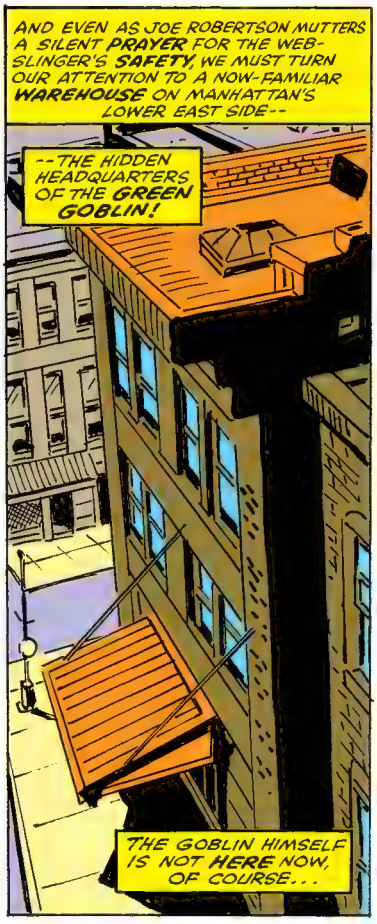
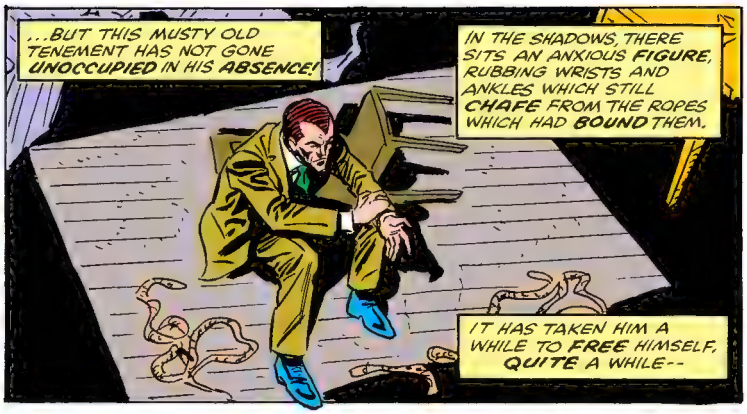
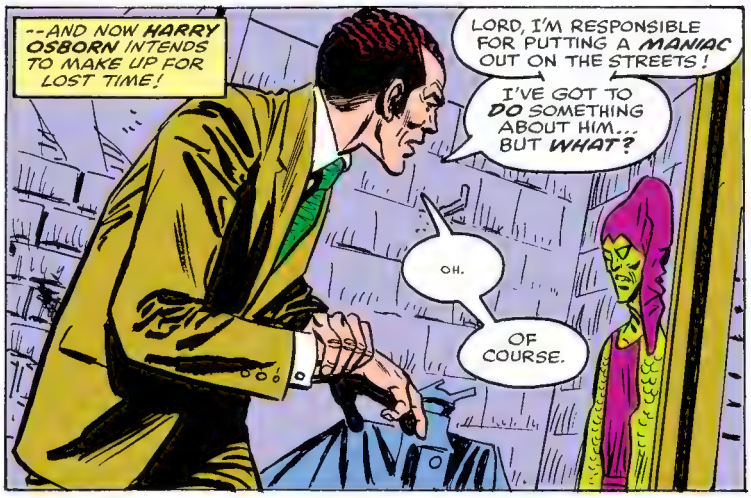

YOU WEB-SLINGING FOOL! BY UPSETTING THE GOBLIN'S GLIDER, YOU'VE DOOMED US ALL!
NOT WHILE I CAN STILL WHIP UP A HANDY WEB-NET, BRIGHT-EYES!
NO! I'VE GONE THROUGH TOO MUCH TO DISPOSE OF SILVERMANE TO LET SPIDER-MAN THWART ME NOW--
--AND THIS SONIC-TOAD WILL SEE TO IT HE DOESN'T!
THAT SOUND-- CAN'T STAND IT! I'M-- BLACKING OUT!
UUNNHH
RECOVERED MY GLIDER AND THE UNCONSCIOUS WALL-CRAWLER BEFORE IT WAS TOO LATE!
BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?
GOBLIN, YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE ME!!
NOW WHY IN SANITY'S NAME WOULD I WANT TO DO THAT?
"AFTER ALL, SILVERMANE-- I CAME HERE TO KILL YOU!"
NO! YOU'RE INHUMAN, GOBLIN! YOU'RE...


I'M TRIUMPHANT, SILVERMANE!
AND IN THE END, LITTLE MAN -- THAT'S ALL THAT REALLY MATTERS!
BOSS!!
SKRASH!
IS HE...?
BREATHIN'? YEAH -- BUT JUST BARELY!
IF HE'S GONNA KEEP BREATHIN', WE GOTTA GET HIM TO A DOC -- AND FAST!
BUT BEFORE WE TAKE THE BOSS ANY-WHERE--
BHUP-UP-AH!
BLAM! BLAM!
-- WE'RE GONNA SEND THAT BLASTED GOBLIN TO HIS GRAVE!!
CRETINS! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR AMMUNITION!
I'VE BEATEN SILVERMANE TONIGHT! I'VE DEFEATED SPIDER-MAN!
DO YOU HONESTLY THINK SUCH AS YOU COULD STAND A CHANCE AGAINST ME?
AND MOMENTS LATER, AS DAILY BUGLE CITY EDITOR JOE ROBERTSON APPROACHES THE BESIEGED THEATRE...
I SENT PETER PARKER TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON HERE--
DIO CITY
... LINDA RONSTADT
-- BUT I NEVER EXPECTED ANYTHING LIKE THIS!
THE GREEN GOBLIN HAS KIDNAPPED SPIDER-MAN--
-- AND HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS IF ANYTHING CAN SAVE THE WEB-SLINGER NOW!
RADIO CITY


AND EVEN AS JOE ROBERTSON MUTTERS A SILENT PRAYER FOR THE WEB-SLINGER'S SAFETY, WE MUST TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A NOW-FAMILIAR WAREHOUSE ON MANHATTAN'S LOWER EAST SIDE--
--THE HIDDEN HEADQUARTERS OF THE GREEN GOBLIN!
THE GOBLIN HIMSELF IS NOT HERE NOW, OF COURSE...


...BUT THIS MUSTY OLD TENEMENT HAS NOT GONE UNOCCUPIED IN HIS ABSENCE!
IN THE SHADOWS, THERE SITS AN ANXIOUS FIGURE, RUBBING WRISTS AND ANKLES WHICH STILL CHAFE FROM THE ROPES WHICH HAD BOUND THEM.
IT HAS TAKEN HIM A WHILE TO FREE HIMSELF, QUITE A WHILE--

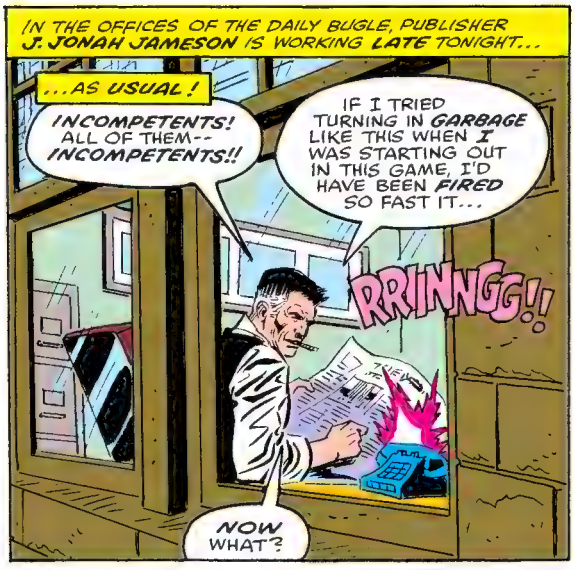

--AND NOW HARRY OSBORN INTENDS TO MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME!
LORD, I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR PUTTING A MANIAC OUT ON THE STREETS!
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIM... BUT WHAT?
OH.
OF COURSE.

IT'S REALLY PRETTY IRONIC, MY PUTTING ON THIS HIDEOUS COSTUME AGAIN THIS WAY!

IT WAS MY WEARING THIS OUTFIT THAT GOT ME INTO THIS MESS IN THE FIRST PLACE!
BUT WHAT OTHER CHOICE DO I HAVE?

HARRY OSBORN CAN DO NOTHING TO STOP THE TERRIBLE MENACE I'VE UNLEASHED--

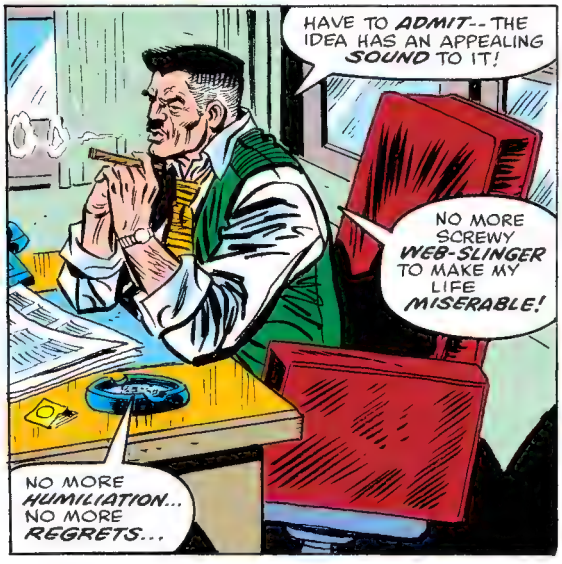
--BUT THE GREEN GOBLIN CAN DO PLENTY!!

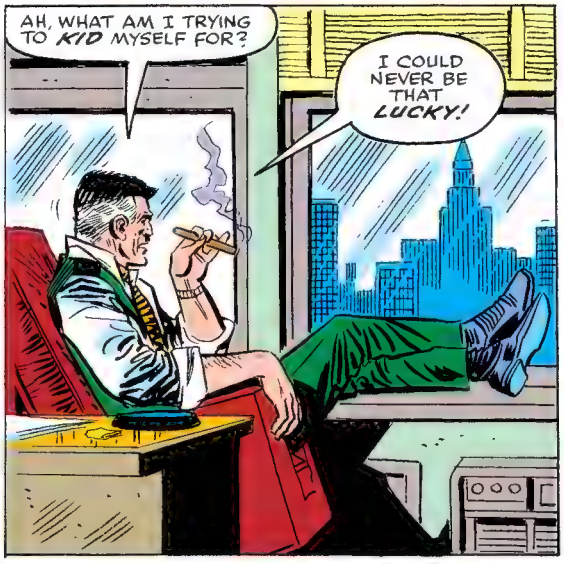

IN THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY BUGLE, PUBLISHER J. JONAH JAMESON IS WORKING LATE TONIGHT...
...AS USUAL!
INCOMPETENTS! ALL OF THEM-- INCOMPETENTS!!
IF I TRIED TURNING IN GARBAGE LIKE THIS WHEN I WAS STARTING OUT IN THIS GAME, I'D HAVE BEEN FIRED SO FAST IT...
RRRINNGG!!
NOW WHAT?

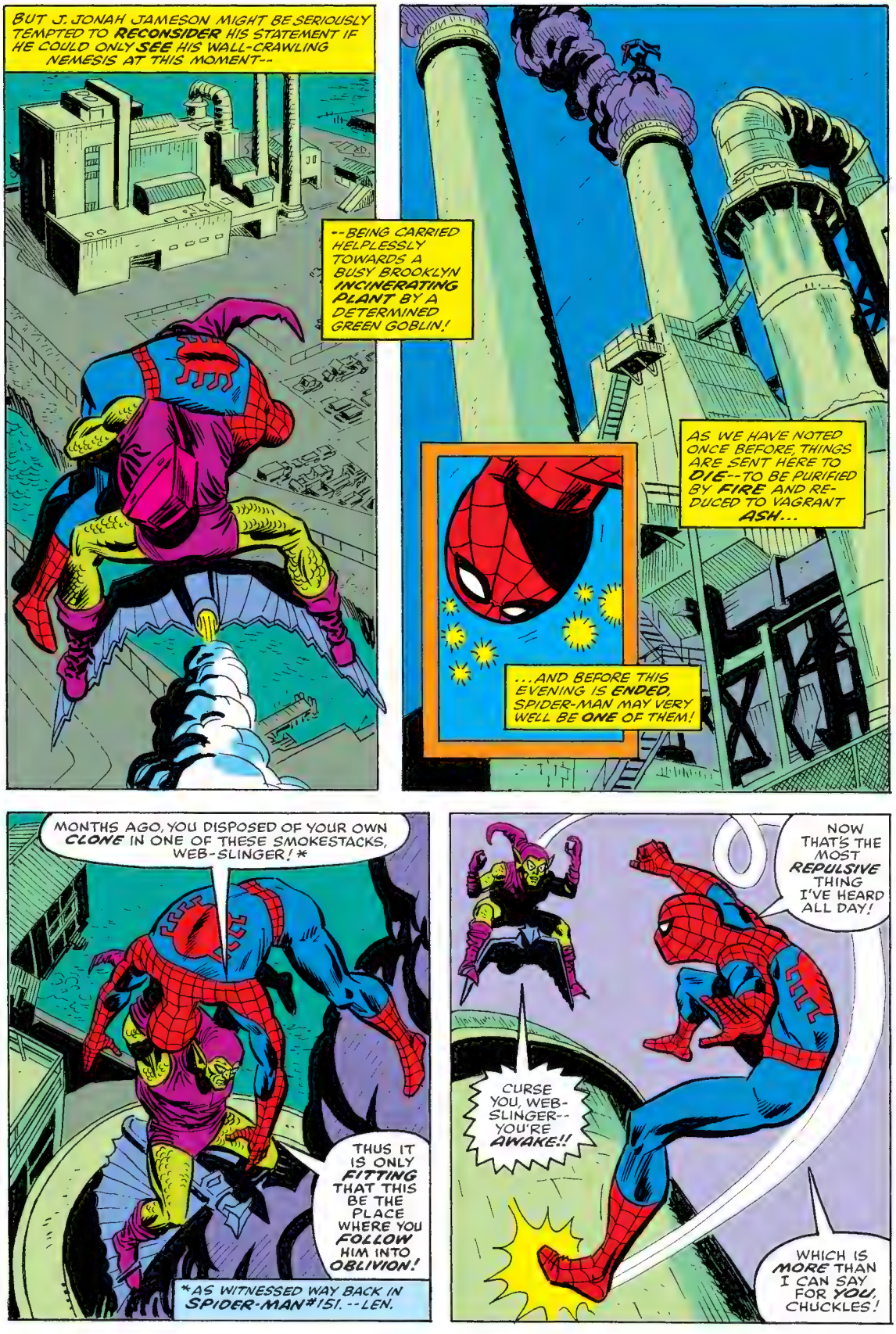
YEAH? WHAT IS IT?
OH, HELLO, ROBBIE. WHAT'S... HUH?
HE WAS KIDNAPPED BY WHO?
YOU'RE KIDDING!
YEAH... RIGHT... GOT IT. GOOD-BYE.

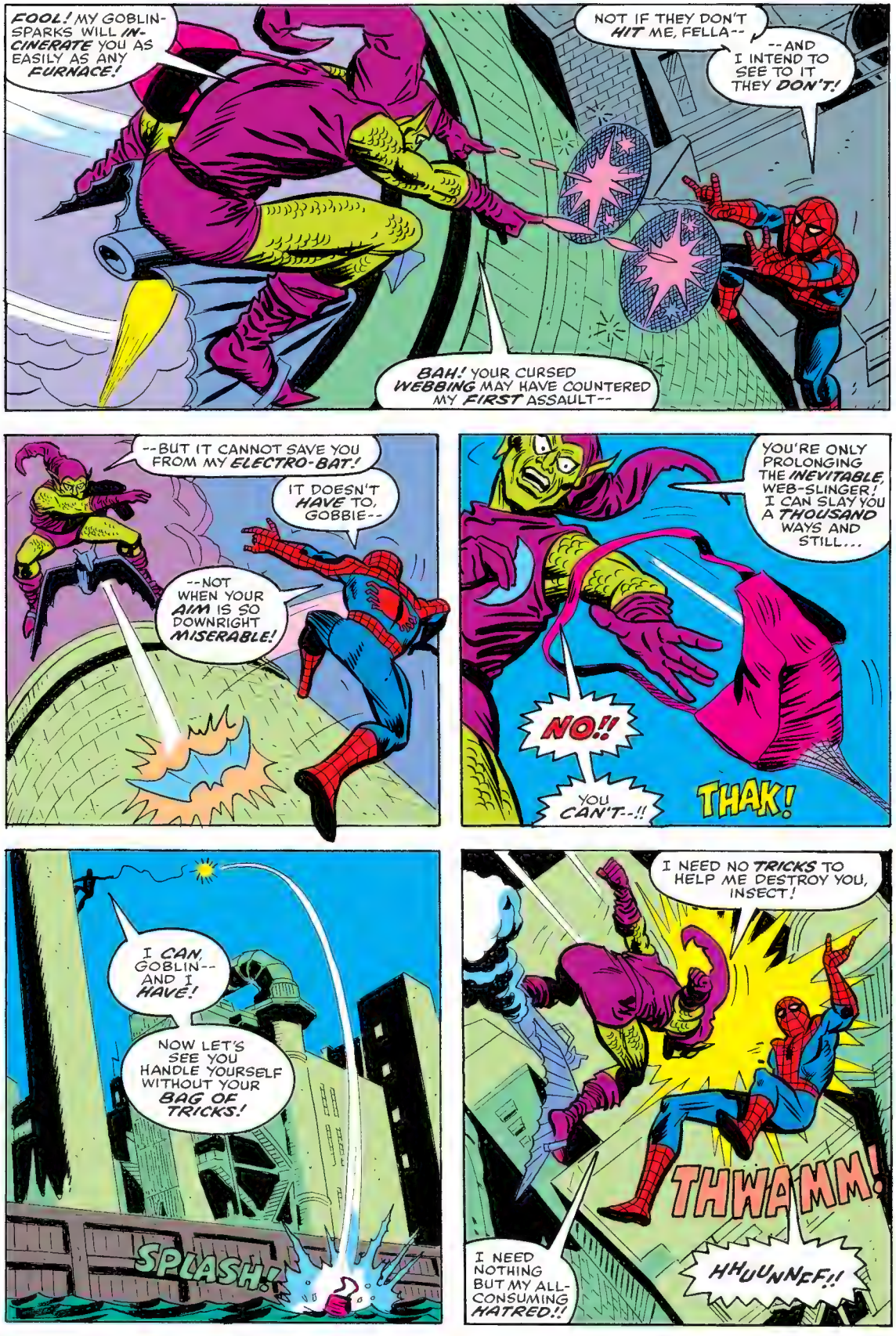
BLAST THAT LOUSY WALL-CRAWLER! HE'S DONE IT TO ME AGAIN!
THE ENTIRE NIGHT OWL EDITION HAS ALREADY BEEN PLATED! IT'LL COST ME A FORTUNE TO HAVE IT REDONE!
AND IF THE GOBLIN SHOULD HAPPEN TO MURDER HIM AFTER I'VE DONE IT-- WHAT THEN?

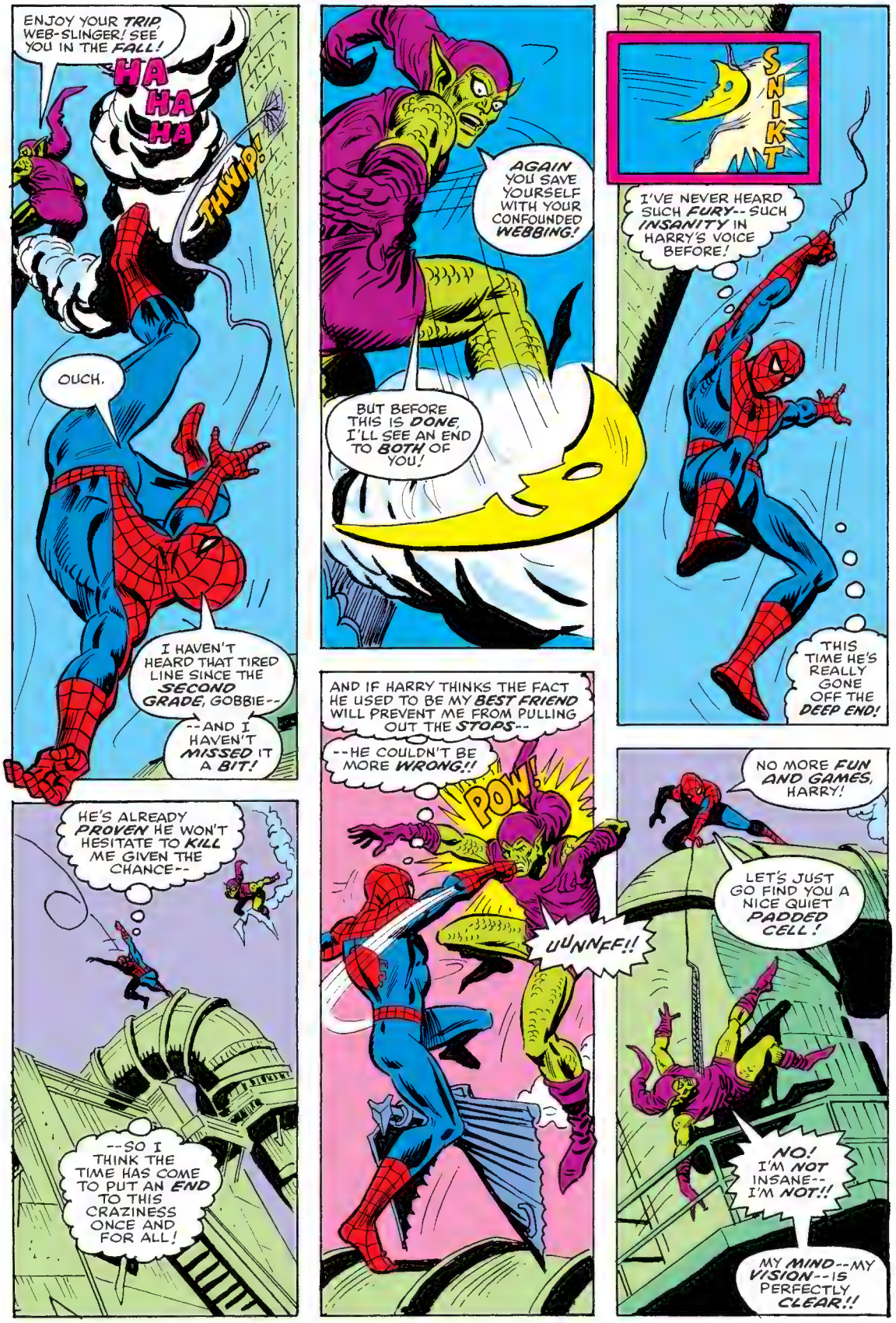
YEAH, JONAH...
...WHAT THEN?

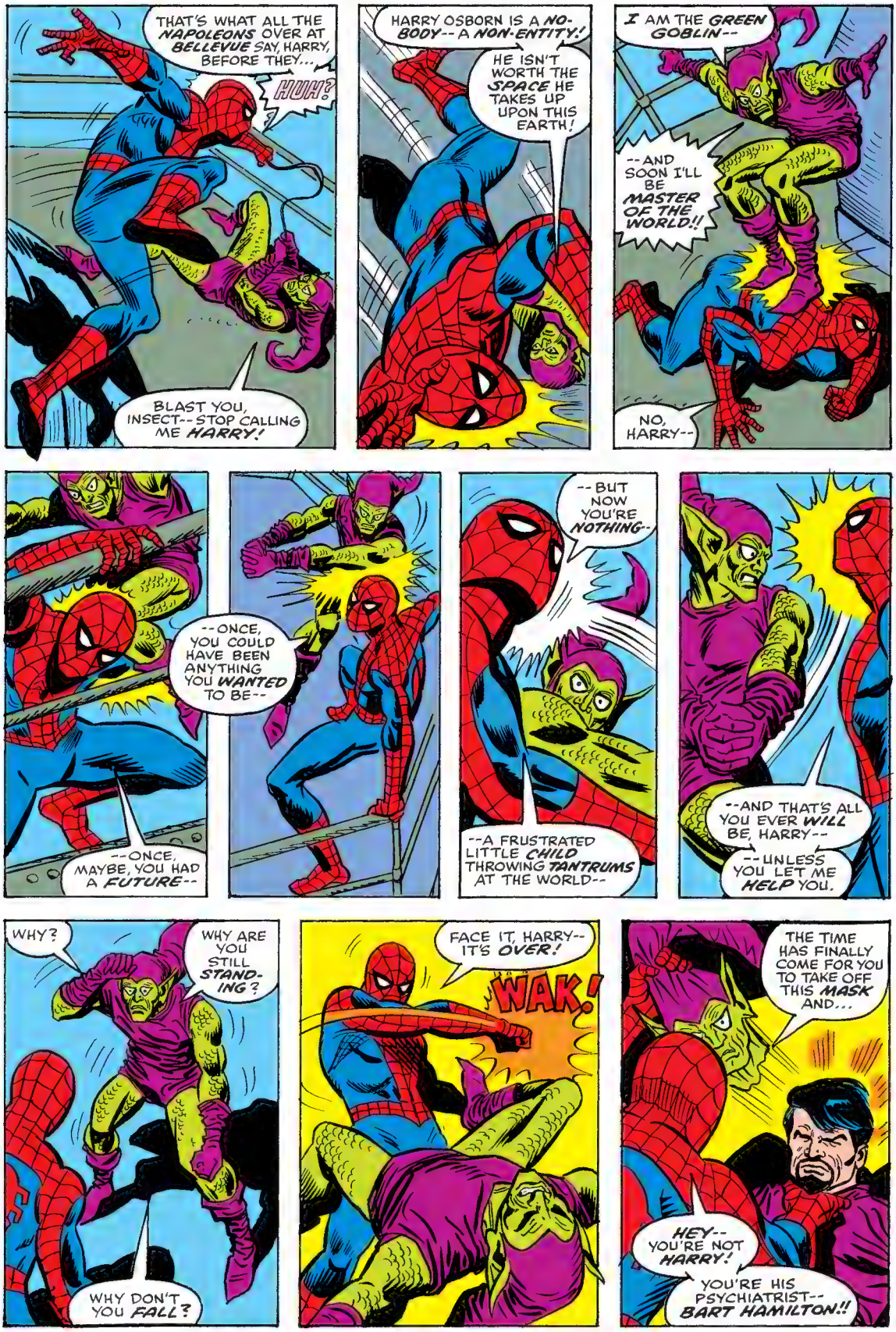

HAVE TO ADMIT-- THE IDEA HAS AN APPEALING SOUND TO IT!
NO MORE SCREWY WEB-SLINGER TO MAKE MY LIFE MISERABLE!
NO MORE HUMILIATION... NO MORE REGRETS...

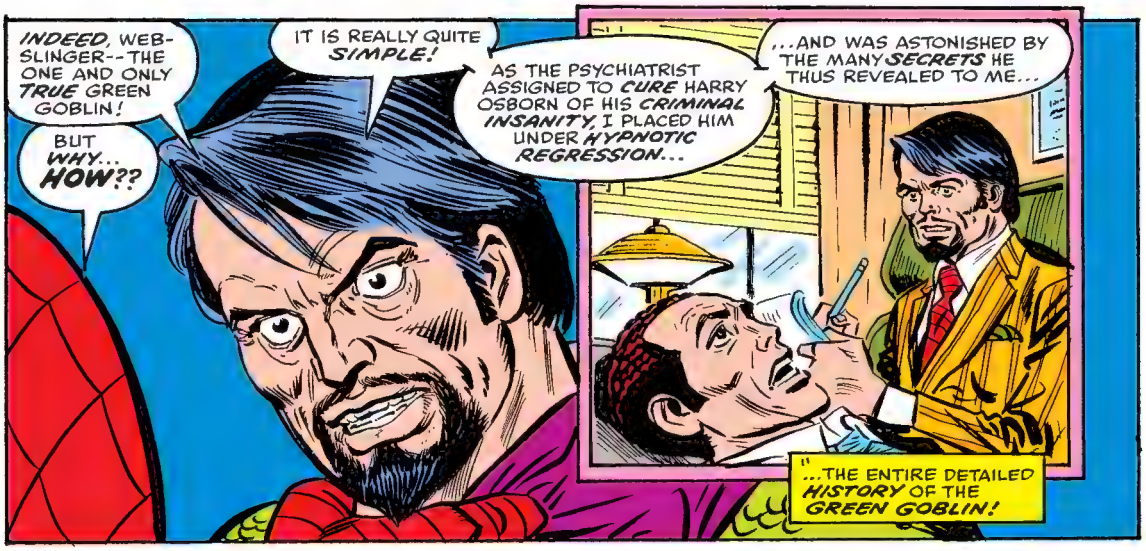

AH, WHAT AM I TRYING TO KID MYSELF FOR?
I COULD NEVER BE THAT LUCKY!


BUT J. JONAH JAMESON MIGHT BE SERIOUSLY TEMPTED TO RECONSIDER HIS STATEMENT IF HE COULD ONLY SEE HIS WALL-CRAWLING NEMESIS AT THIS MOMENT--
--BEING CARRIED HELPLESSLY TOWARDS A BUSY BROOKLYN INCINERATING PLANT BY A DETERMINED GREEN GOBLIN!
AS WE HAVE NOTED ONCE BEFORE, THINGS ARE SENT HERE TO DIE--TO BE PURIFIED BY FIRE AND REDUCED TO VAGRANT ASH...
...AND BEFORE THIS EVENING IS ENDED, SPIDER-MAN MAY VERY WELL BE ONE OF THEM!
MONTHS AGO, YOU DISPOSED OF YOUR OWN CLONE IN ONE OF THESE SMOKESTACKS, WEB-SLINGER!*
THUS IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT THIS BE THE PLACE WHERE YOU FOLLOW HIM INTO OBLIVION!
*AS WITNESSED WAY BACK IN SPIDER-MAN #151. --LEN.
NOW THAT'S THE MOST REPULSIVE THING I'VE HEARD ALL DAY!
CURSE YOU, WEB-SLINGER--YOU'RE AWAKE!!
WHICH IS MORE THAN I CAN SAY FOR YOU, CHUCKLES!

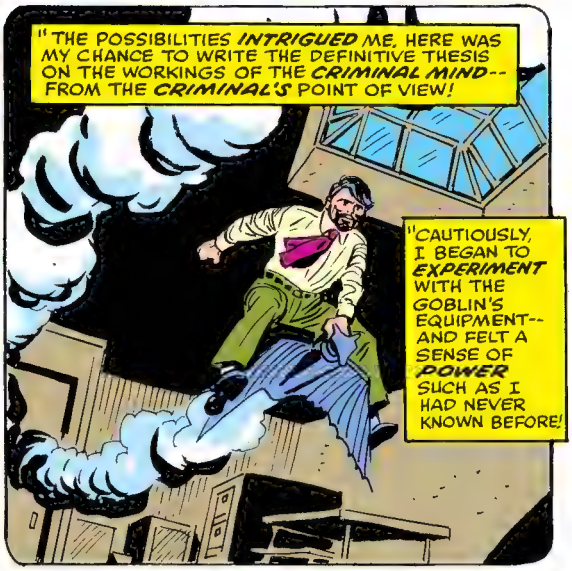

FOOL! MY GOBLIN-SPARKS WILL IN-CINERATE YOU AS EASILY AS ANY FURNACE!
NOT IF THEY DON'T HIT ME, FELLA--
--AND I INTEND TO SEE TO IT THEY DON'T!
BAH! YOUR CURSED WEBBING MAY HAVE COUNTERED MY FIRST ASSAULT--
--BUT IT CANNOT SAVE YOU FROM MY ELECTRO-BAT!
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO, GOBBIE--
--NOT WHEN YOUR AIM IS SO DOWNRIGHT MISERABLE!
YOU'RE ONLY PROLONGING THE INEVITABLE, WEB-SLINGER! I CAN SLAY YOU A THOUSAND WAYS AND STILL...
NO!!
YOU CAN'T--!!
THAK!
I CAN, GOBLIN-- AND I HAVE!
NOW LET'S SEE YOU HANDLE YOURSELF WITHOUT YOUR BAG OF TRICKS!
SPLASH!
I NEED NO TRICKS TO HELP ME DESTROY YOU, INSECT!
THWAMM!
I NEED NOTHING BUT MY ALL-CONSUMING HATRED!!
HHUUNNEF!!


ENJOY YOUR TRIP, WEB-SLINGER! SEE YOU IN THE FALL!
HA HA HA
THWIP!
OUCH.
I HAVEN'T HEARD THAT TIRED LINE SINCE THE SECOND GRADE, GOBBIE--
--AND I HAVEN'T MISSED IT A BIT!
AGAIN YOU SAVE YOURSELF WITH YOUR CONFOUNDED WEBBING!
BUT BEFORE THIS IS DONE, I'LL SEE AN END TO BOTH OF YOU!
SNIKT
I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH FURY-- SUCH INSANITY IN HARRY'S VOICE BEFORE!
THIS TIME HE'S REALLY GONE OFF THE DEEP END!
HE'S ALREADY PROVEN HE WON'T HESITATE TO KILL ME GIVEN THE CHANCE--
--SO I THINK THE TIME HAS COME TO PUT AN END TO THIS CRAZINESS ONCE AND FOR ALL!
AND IF HARRY THINKS THE FACT HE USED TO BE MY BEST FRIEND WILL PREVENT ME FROM PULLING OUT THE STOPS--
--HE COULDN'T BE MORE WRONG!!
POW!
UUNNFF!!
NO MORE FUN AND GAMES, HARRY!
LET'S JUST GO FIND YOU A NICE QUIET PADDED CELL!
NO! I'M NOT INSANE-- I'M NOT!!
MY MIND--MY VISION--IS PERFECTLY CLEAR!!


THAT'S WHAT ALL THE NAPOLEONS OVER AT BELLEVUE SAY, HARRY, BEFORE THEY...
HUH?
BLAST YOU, INSECT--STOP CALLING ME HARRY!
HARRY OSBORN IS A NO-BODY--A NON-ENTITY!
HE ISN'T WORTH THE SPACE HE TAKES UP UPON THIS EARTH!
I AM THE GREEN GOBLIN--
--AND SOON I'LL BE MASTER OF THE WORLD!!
NO, HARRY--
--ONCE, YOU COULD HAVE BEEN ANYTHING YOU WANTED TO BE--
--ONCE, MAYBE, YOU HAD A FUTURE--
--BUT NOW YOU'RE NOTHING--
--A FRUSTRATED LITTLE CHILD THROWING TANTRUMS AT THE WORLD--
--AND THAT'S ALL YOU EVER WILL BE, HARRY--
--UNLESS YOU LET ME HELP YOU.
WHY?
WHY ARE YOU STILL STANDING?
WHY DON'T YOU FALL?
FACE IT, HARRY--IT'S OVER!
WAK!
THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME FOR YOU TO TAKE OFF THIS MASK AND...
HEY--YOU'RE NOT HARRY!
YOU'RE HIS PSYCHIATRIST--BART HAMILTON!!


INDEED, WEB-SLINGER--THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE GREEN GOBLIN!
BUT WHY... HOW??
IT IS REALLY QUITE SIMPLE!
AS THE PSYCHIATRIST ASSIGNED TO CURE HARRY OSBORN OF HIS CRIMINAL INSANITY, I PLACED HIM UNDER HYPNOTIC REGRESSION...
...AND WAS ASTONISHED BY THE MANY SECRETS HE THUS REVEALED TO ME...
"...THE ENTIRE DETAILED HISTORY OF THE GREEN GOBLIN!

"NATURALLY, I DECIDED TO CHECK THE VERACITY OF HARRY'S STATEMENTS--AND DISCOVERED EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM WAS TRUE!"
I'VE FOUND IT--THE GOBLIN'S HIDEOUT--COMPLETE WITH ALL THE TRAPPINGS!

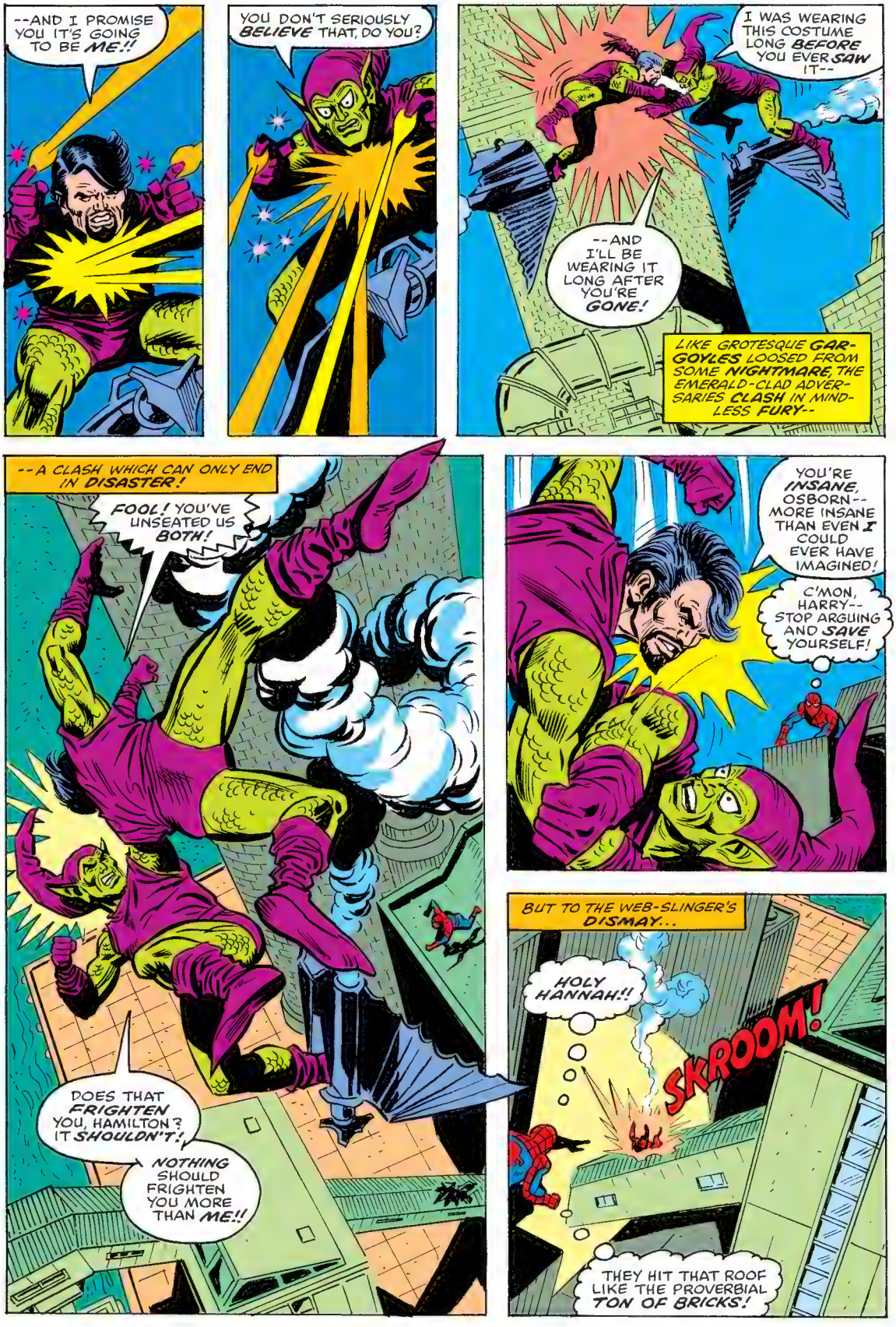

"THE POSSIBILITIES INTRIGUED ME. HERE WAS MY CHANCE TO WRITE THE DEFINITIVE THESIS ON THE WORKINGS OF THE CRIMINAL MIND--FROM THE CRIMINAL'S POINT OF VIEW!
"CAUTIOUSLY, I BEGAN TO EXPERIMENT WITH THE GOBLIN'S EQUIPMENT--AND FELT A SENSE OF POWER SUCH AS I HAD NEVER KNOWN BEFORE!

"SLOWLY, I CAME TO REALIZE THAT THE SECRETS OF THE GREEN GOBLIN WERE FAR TOO PRECIOUS TO BE SHARED!
"THEY HAD TO BE MINE AND MINE ALONE--
"--FOR ONLY I WAS TRULY WORTHY OF THEM!

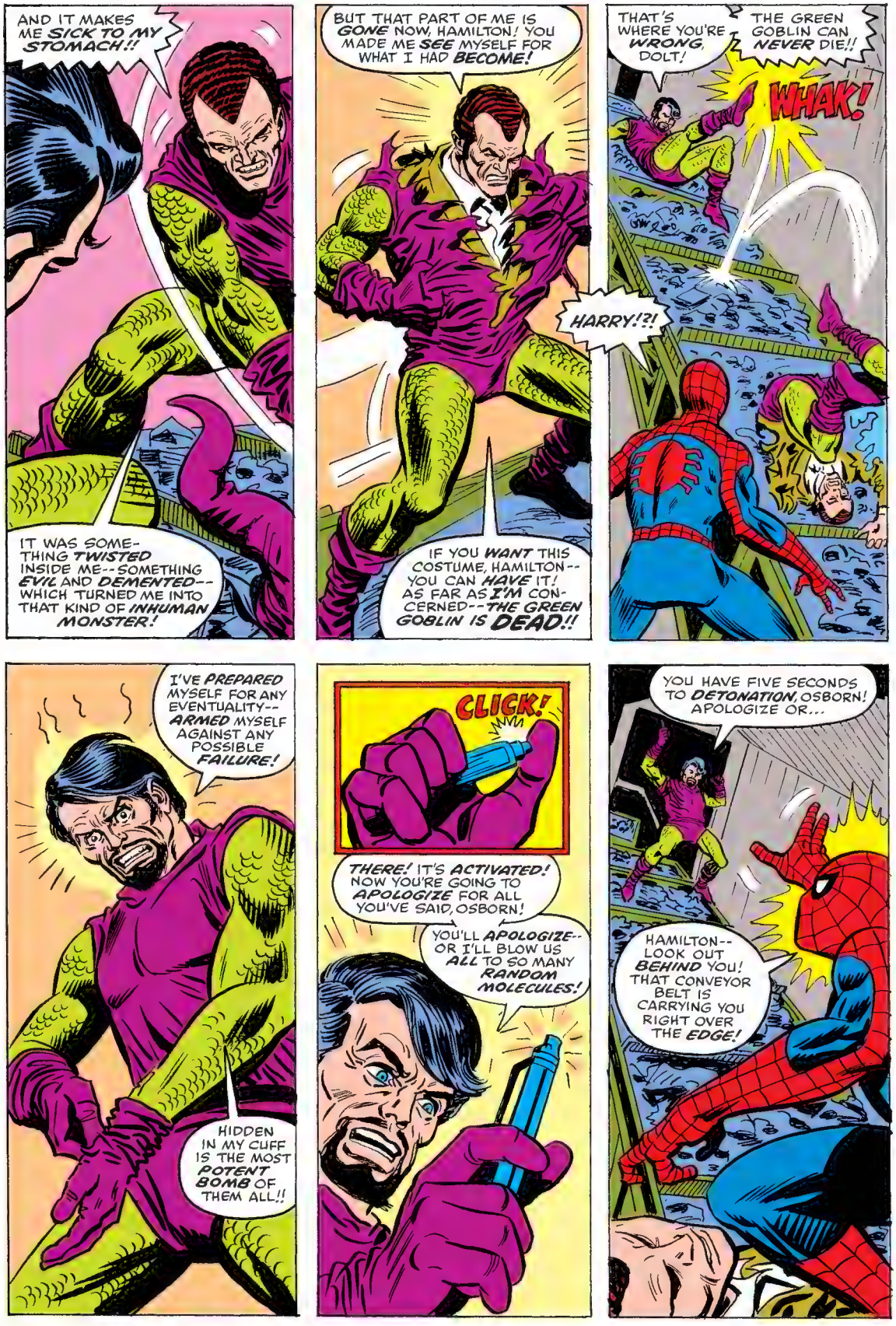
"THERE WAS SO MUCH FOR ME TO DO--SO MANY INJUSTICES TO BE REVENGED--BUT NOT BEFORE I REMOVED THE GREATEST OBSTACLE TO MY INEVITABLE VICTORY...
"...AND THAT, OF COURSE, WAS YOU!
SPIDER-MAN: THREAT OR MENA
"HARRY HAD ALREADY REVEALED YOUR TRUE IDENTITY TO ME...

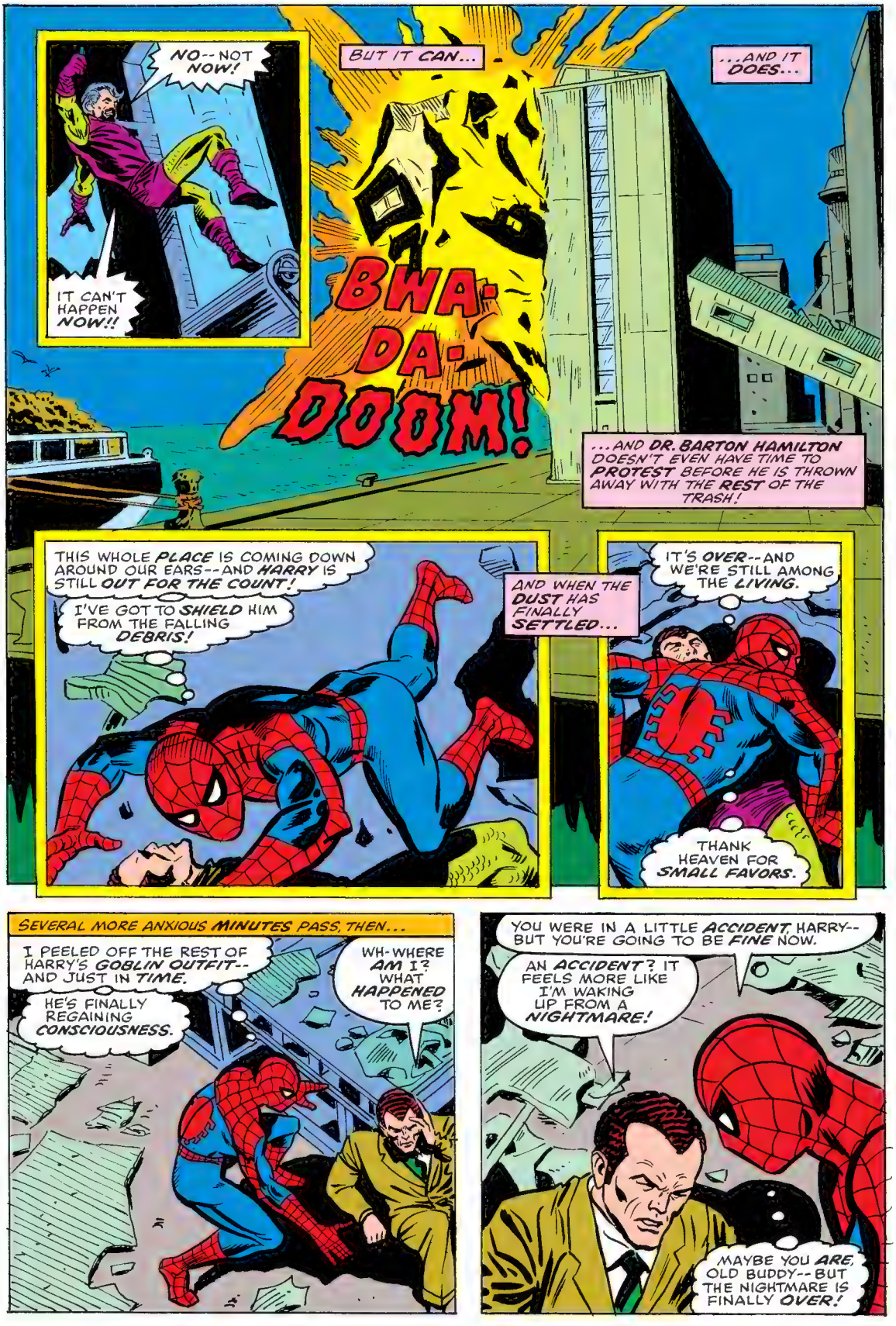
"...SO IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER FOR ME TO HYPNOTIZE HIM ONCE MORE, AND ORDER HIM TO ENGINEER YOUR DESTRUCTION--
"--YOU, WHO HAD PRETENDED TO BE HIS BEST FRIEND!
"IT WAS HARRY WHO SECRETLY FOLLOWED YOU HERE WHEN YOU DISPOSED OF YOUR CLONE AND TOOK PICTURES OF YOU IN THE ACT!
"IT APPEALED TO MY SENSE OF IRONY THAT YOU, A PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER, SHOULD BE UNDONE BY A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS!
"AT MY DIRECTION, HARRY MAILED THEM TO J. JONAH JAMESON OF THE DAILY BUGLE--
"--AND THEN, AS I HAD COMMANDED HIM, HE FORGOT ALL THAT HE HAD DONE!"
*BACK IN ISSUE #169. --LEN.
INCREDIBLE! I THOUGHT I WAS SHUCKING JONAH WHEN I TRIED TO EXPLAIN THOSE SNAPSHOTS TO HIM,* BUT I WAS MORE RIGHT THAN... EH?
MY SPIDER-SENSE-- IT'S STARTED TINGLING LIKE...
NO.
BWHOOM!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
THERE ARE TWO GREEN GOBLINS--
--AND THIS NEW ONE IS CRAZIER THAN THE FIRST!!

THAT PUMPKIN-BOMB SEPARATED ME FROM HAMILTON--
--BUT THAT'S THE LEAST OF MY WORRIES RIGHT NOW!
'CAUSE IF THAT NEW GOBLIN IS WHO I'M AFRAID HE IS--MY PROBLEMS ARE ONLY BEGINNING!
...OR ARE THEY?
I'M A WIDE-OPEN TARGET HERE, BUT HARRY IS IGNORING ME--
--AND TURNING HIS ATTENTION TO HAMILTON INSTEAD!
YOU USED ME, HAMILTON! YOU ABUSED ME--AND NOW YOU ARE GOING TO PAY FOR IT IN FULL!
GET UP OFF YOUR KNEES, LITTLE MAN! GET UP--AND FIGHT!!
YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS! IT WOULD BE A VERY ONE-SIDED BATTLE--
--CONSIDERING I'M NOW EMPTY-HANDED!
IF THIS BAG OF TRICKS IS ALL THAT STANDS BETWEEN ME AND SATISFACTION, IT IS A PROBLEM EASILY SOLVED!
NOW GET UP, BLAST YOU--AND FACE ME!
IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE, FOOL--NOW THAT YOU HAVE THROWN AWAY YOUR ONLY MEANS OF SALVATION!
ONLY ONE OF US WILL WALK AWAY FROM THIS BATTLE ALIVE, OSBORN--


--AND I PROMISE YOU IT'S GOING TO BE ME!!
YOU DON'T SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THAT, DO YOU?
I WAS WEARING THIS COSTUME LONG BEFORE YOU EVER SAW IT--
--AND I'LL BE WEARING IT LONG AFTER YOU'RE GONE!
LIKE GROTESQUE GARGOYLES LOOSED FROM SOME NIGHTMARE, THE EMERALD-CLAD ADVERSARIES CLASH IN MINDLESS FURY--
--A CLASH WHICH CAN ONLY END IN DISASTER!
FOOL! YOU'VE UNSEATED US BOTH!
YOU'RE INSANE, OSBORN-- MORE INSANE THAN EVEN I COULD EVER HAVE IMAGINED!
C'MON, HARRY-- STOP ARGUING AND SAVE YOURSELF!
DOES THAT FRIGHTEN YOU, HAMILTON? IT SHOULDN'T!
NOTHING SHOULD FRIGHTEN YOU MORE THAN ME!!
BUT TO THE WEB-SLINGER'S DISMAY...
HOLY HANNAH!!
SKROOM!
THEY HIT THAT ROOF LIKE THE PROVERBIAL TON OF BRICKS!

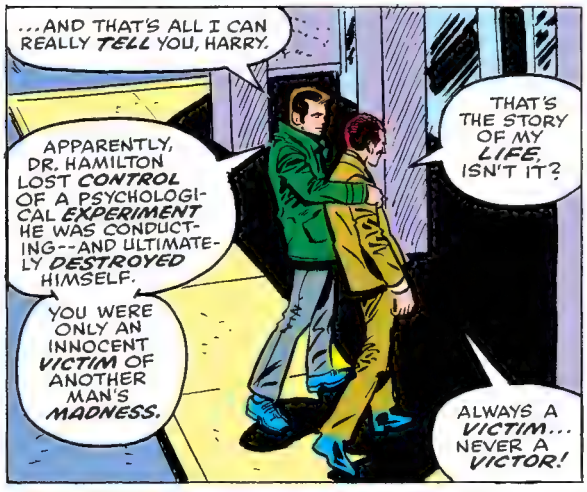
I CAN'T SIT ON THE SIDELINES ANY LONGER!
SKRASH!
GOTTA GET IN THERE-- SEE IF I CAN HELP!
A FALL LIKE THAT MUST HAVE BROKEN EVERY BONE IN BOTH THEIR BODIES!
CRIPES! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
THE TWO OF THEM ARE STILL GOING AT IT!
YOU'VE WORKED HARD TO BECOME THE GREEN GOBLIN, HAMILTON!
I HOPE IT WAS WORTH IT TO YOU!
BECAUSE IT'S GOING TO COST YOU, MISTER!
UUNNGGHH!!
IT'S GOING TO COST YOU DEARLY!!
YOU-- YOU MOCK ME!
AND YET... YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE GREEN GOBLIN!
YOU KNOW THE SENSE OF SUPERIORITY IT GIVES YOU--THE ALMOST LIMITLESS POWER!
YOU KNOW HOW IT SETS YOU ABOVE THE COMMON WORMS WHO CRAWL IN THE STREETS!
YES, HAMILTON... I KNOW.
DEAR GOD IN HEAVEN-- HOW I KNOW!


AND IT MAKES ME SICK TO MY STOMACH!!
IT WAS SOMETHING TWISTED INSIDE ME--SOMETHING EVIL AND DEMENTED--WHICH TURNED ME INTO THAT KIND OF INHUMAN MONSTER!
BUT THAT PART OF ME IS GONE NOW, HAMILTON! YOU MADE ME SEE MYSELF FOR WHAT I HAD BECOME!
IF YOU WANT THIS COSTUME, HAMILTON--YOU CAN HAVE IT! AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED--THE GREEN GOBLIN IS DEAD!!
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, DOLT!
THE GREEN GOBLIN CAN NEVER DIE!!
WHAK!
HARRY!?!
I'VE PREPARED MYSELF FOR ANY EVENTUALITY--ARMED MYSELF AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE FAILURE!
HIDDEN IN MY CUFF IS THE MOST POTENT BOMB OF THEM ALL!!
CLICK!
THERE! IT'S ACTIVATED! NOW YOU'RE GOING TO APOLOGIZE FOR ALL YOU'VE SAID, OSBORN!
YOU'LL APOLOGIZE--OR I'LL BLOW US ALL TO SO MANY RANDOM MOLECULES!
YOU HAVE FIVE SECONDS TO DETONATION, OSBORN! APOLOGIZE OR...
HAMILTON--LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU! THAT CONVEYOR BELT IS CARRYING YOU RIGHT OVER THE EDGE!

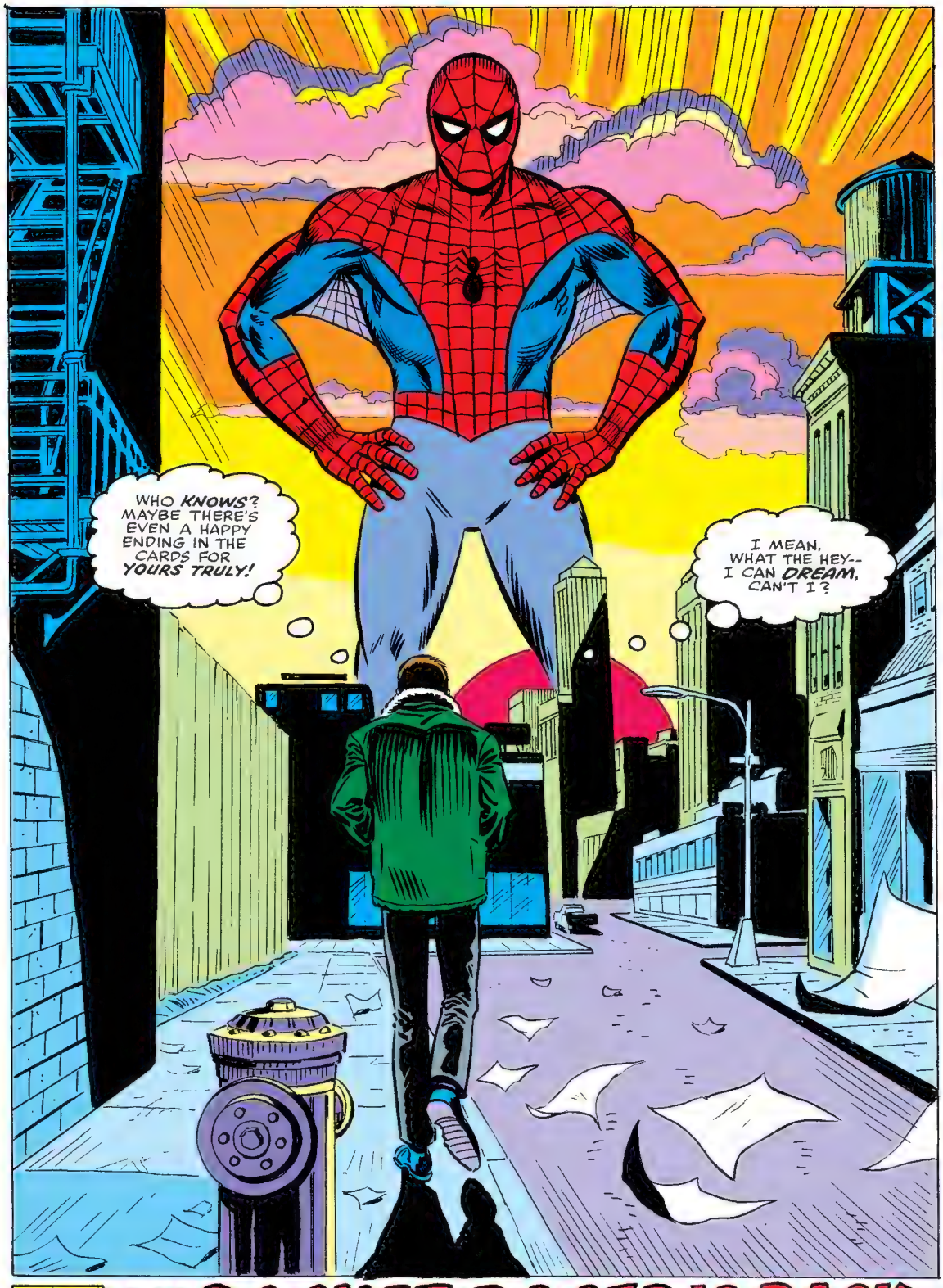

NO--NOT NOW!
IT CAN'T HAPPEN NOW!!
BUT IT CAN...
...AND IT DOES...
BWA-DA-DOOM!
...AND DR. BARTON HAMILTON DOESN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO PROTEST BEFORE HE IS THROWN AWAY WITH THE REST OF THE TRASH!
THIS WHOLE PLACE IS COMING DOWN AROUND OUR EARS--AND HARRY IS STILL OUT FOR THE COUNT!
I'VE GOT TO SHIELD HIM FROM THE FALLING DEBRIS!
AND WHEN THE DUST HAS FINALLY SETTLED...
IT'S OVER--AND WE'RE STILL AMONG THE LIVING.
THANK HEAVEN FOR SMALL FAVORS.
SEVERAL MORE ANXIOUS MINUTES PASS, THEN...
I PEELED OFF THE REST OF HARRY'S GOBLIN OUTFIT--AND JUST IN TIME.
HE'S FINALLY REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS.
WH-WHERE AM I? WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
YOU WERE IN A LITTLE ACCIDENT, HARRY--BUT YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE NOW.
AN ACCIDENT? IT FEELS MORE LIKE I'M WAKING UP FROM A NIGHTMARE!
MAYBE YOU ARE, OLD BUDDY--BUT THE NIGHTMARE IS FINALLY OVER!

EPILOGUE:

*A SHORT WHILE LATER, AFTER SPIDER-MAN HAS SWUNG OFF INTO THE **DARKNESS**, AS PETER PARKER ESCORTS A STILL-CONFUSED **HARRY OSBORN** BACK TO HIS FAR ROCKAWAY **APARTMENT**...*


...AND THAT'S ALL I CAN REALLY TELL YOU, HARRY.
APPARENTLY, DR. HAMILTON LOST CONTROL OF A PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERIMENT HE WAS CONDUCTING--AND ULTIMATELY DESTROYED HIMSELF.
THAT'S THE STORY OF MY LIFE, ISN'T IT?
YOU WERE ONLY AN INNOCENT VICTIM OF ANOTHER MAN'S MADNESS.
ALWAYS A VICTIM... NEVER A VICTOR!

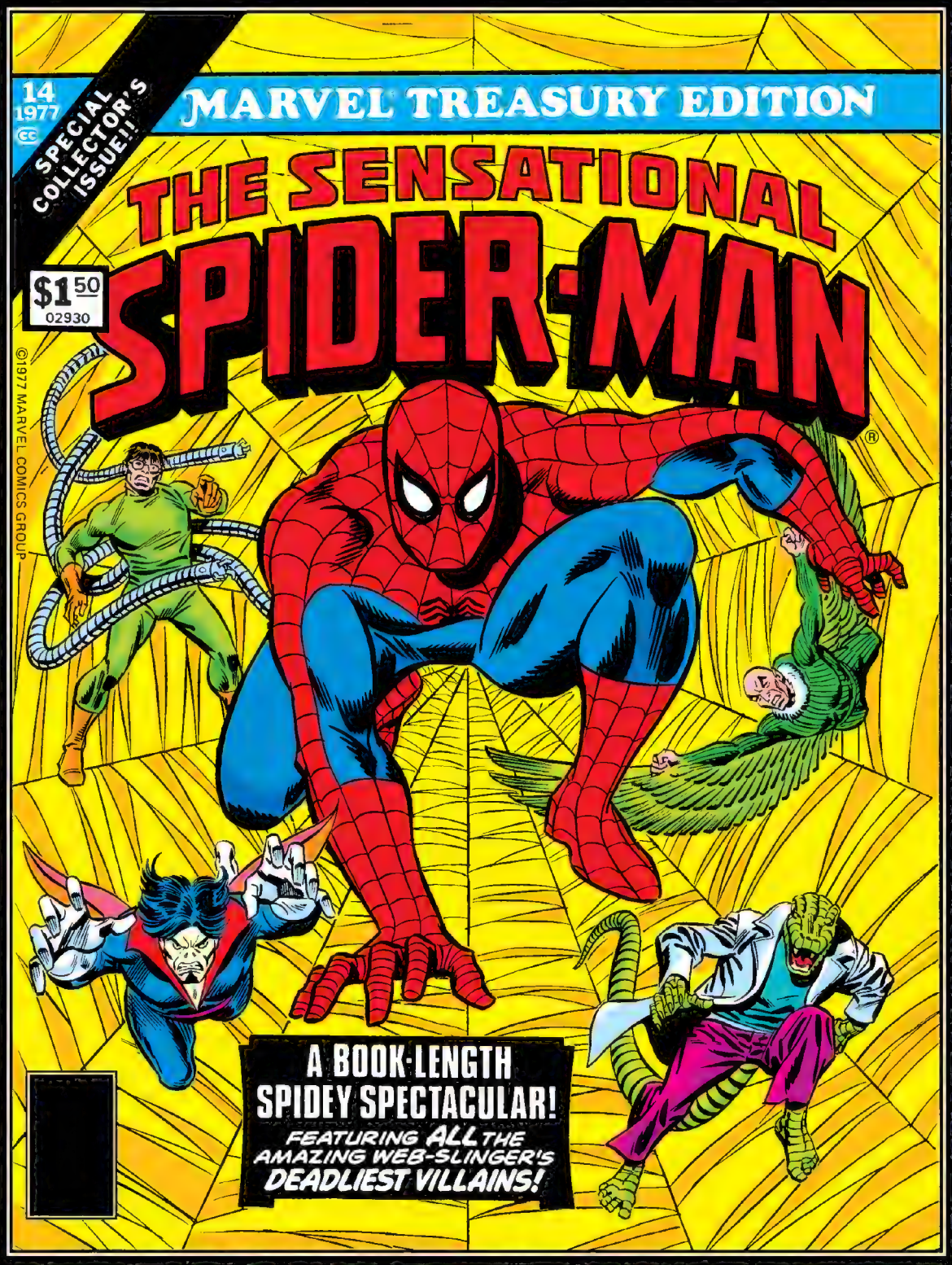
C'MON, HARRY--GIVE YOURSELF A BREAK. IT'S ALL OVER NOW. YOU'VE GOT A CHANCE TO START FRESH.
MAYBE SO--BUT SOMEHOW, IT JUST DOESN'T MEAN A WHOLE LOT TO ME.



NEXT ISSUE: THE ROCKET-RACER IS BACK IN TOWN!

BE HERE, OKAY?

Between covers by Gil Kane & Frank Giacoia, *Marvel Treasury Edition* #14 reprinted stories from *The Amazing Spider-Man* #100-102 & *Not Brand Echh* #6



Stan Lee presents
THE SENSATIONAL
SPIDER-MAN
VOL. 1 NO. 14 1977
A SPECIAL BOOK-LENGTH EDITION OF THE MOST AMAZING SPIDER-EPIC OF ALL!
Chapt. I ... THE SPIDER OR THE MAN? PG. 3
Chapt. II ... A MONSTER CALLED... MORBIUS! PG. 22
Chapt. III ... VAMPIRE AT LARGE! PG. 42
Chapt. IV ... THE WAY IT BEGAN! PG. 53
Chapt. V ... THE CURSE AND THE CURE! PG. 64
PLUS
A SPECIAL BONUS TREAT!
With this RING, I thee web! PG. 76
A TALE OF OFFBEAT MARVEL MADNESS FROM THE PAGES OF THE IMMORTAL
NOT BRAND ECCH

Compliments of your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man!

House ad promoting Spidey's expanding presence on newsstands from June 1977 titles

NOW!
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR HERO IS ON SALE FIVE --COUNT 'EM-- FIVE TIMES A MONTH!!!
MARVEL TEAM-UP
STARRING IN:
PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
SPIDEY SUPER STORIES
MARVEL TALES
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
DON'T MISS A ONE, PILGRIM!

House ad for 1977 Annuals including *The Amazing Spider-Man Annual* #11 from September 1977 titles

THE SUMMER EXPLOSION IS ON ITS WAY!
THREE MORE ALL-NEW GIANT SIZE MASTERWORKS FROM MIGHTY MARVEL!
KING-SIZE ANNUAL!
The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
THE INVADERS
BATTLE ISSUE
HOWARD THE DUCK
ON SALE IN JUNE -- WATCH FOR 'EM!

BIOGRAPHIES

LEN WEIN

Len Wein's career is highlighted by successes from Swamp Thing to the "All-New, All-Different" X-Men, but few fans know that the award-winning writer and editor started out as a comic-book artist.

As a teenager, Wein was tied to the hip with fellow fanzine writer Marv Wolfman, regularly skipping school to tour the DC Comics offices. After building a rapport with artists and execs like Dick Giordano, Carmine Infantino and Joe Orlando, Wein was able to credibly pitch to the editors. Though his artwork was politely passed upon, a script for *House of Mystery* was accepted and a career as a writer was born. Len attacked his new occupation with gusto, writing for DC, Marvel, Gold Key and Skywald, on everything from Western to horror, and licensed properties from Hot Wheels to Star Trek.

Although his desired career as an artist didn't quite pan out, it did give Wein insight into his collaborator's creative process and helped him garner acclaim as a writer that was "easy to draw." After super-hero work in the early '70s (Daredevil, Superman, Flash), he and artist Bernie Wrightson launched horror mainstay Swamp Thing in the pages of *House of Secrets* #92. Other notable achievements from his tenure at DC include a run on *Justice League of America* and the debut of the Human Target.

Hopping over to Marvel in 1974, where he followed Roy Thomas as editor in chief, Wein scripted several series, including *Incredible Hulk*, where he and artist Herb Trimpe introduced one of comics' most famous characters—Wolverine. That wasn't the end of his mutant milestones, as with artist Dave Cockrum he revived the dormant X-Men property with a new international cast. Its cadre of characters, including Storm, Nightcrawler and Colossus would shortly turn into comics' biggest phenomenon.

Returning to DC, Wein helped spur a creative revival at the company, editing *New Teen Titans*, *Camelot 3000* and *Swamp Thing*, which gave writer Alan Moore his American debut; shortly thereafter, Wein would preside over Moore and Dave Gibbon's groundbreaking *Watchmen*. Since then, Wein's credits in comics, animation and television writing have been numerous and well received as witnessed by his 2008 induction into the Eisner Hall of Fame.

ROSS ANDRU

An everyman and entrepreneur throughout his long career in comics, Ross Andru became the stalwart penciler of Marvel's *Amazing Spider-Man* in 1973, gaining a renown as one of the great Spidey artists. With a smooth, compact style that eschewed extraneous detail, Andru's artistic visions were grounded in a reality that engaged the medium's readers.

His career in comics began in 1951. With an education at the Cartoonists and Illustrators School and a gig drawing Burne Hogarth's weekly *Tarzan* strips behind him, the Cleveland native teamed with inker Mike Esposito to form not only a decades-enduring artistic partnership but their own company, MR Publications.

Their next company, Mikeross Publications, turned out such fare as the satirical *Get Lost* and the romance title *Heart and Soul*. The success of these initiatives fleeting in the face of an industry-wide downturn, Andru would often find himself splitting time between Marvel and DC. At Marvel, he mainly handled Western comics like *Annie Oakley*, while at DC, he contributed to Robert Kanigher's war comics like *Star-Spangled War Stories* and *Our Army At War*, wherein he drew the first appearance of Sgt. Rock of Easy Company in 1959.

His impressive performance with Esposito garnered him a chance to take over *Wonder Woman*, starting a nine-year-long run that would stretch through 1967 and find him depicting charming stories of Diana Prince's teenage years on Paradise Island. Another notable title that Andru would work on in the '60s was *Metal Men*. Leaping from *Showcase* to its own bimonthly title, Andru and Esposito crafted a sweet-natured heroic fantasy starring artificially intelligent robots.

A move to Marvel in the early '70s resulted in key work on *Marvel Feature*, in which he drew the first adventures of The Defenders, and *Marvel Team-Up*, his first regular foray on Spider-Man. Over the next five years, Andru would team with writer Gerry Conway and produce milestones including the first appearance of the Punisher, Harry Osborn donning the guise of the Green Goblin and the infamous Spider-Mobile. Completely at home in the cityscapes that Spider-Man called home, Andru's approach kept Spider-Man at the top of the sales charts through the decade. He also drew the first Marvel/DC crossover, *Superman vs. The Amazing Spider-Man*.

In 1978, Andru returned to DC in an editorial capacity, with his art focused mainly on covers, but his pencils would grace the interiors of books like *Atari Force*, *Jonah Hex*, *Vigilante* and *Blue Beetle*. He largely retired from the field by the late '80s and passed away shortly after his last work was published in 1993. In 2007, Andru and his longtime collaborator Mike Esposito were inducted into the Eisner Hall of Fame.

SAL BUSCEMA

Without a doubt one of comics' most prolific artists, "Our Pal" Sal Buscema joined Marvel in 1968 shortly after his elder brother, John. Tackling inking duties on *Silver Surfer* and *Fantastic Four*, including the all-time classic *Silver Surfer* #4, Buscema quickly graduated to penciling. He was an anchor of the Marvel line in the 1970s with long runs on books like *Captain America*, *Marvel Team-Up* and *The Spectacular Spider-Man* and a 100-plus issue run on *The Incredible Hulk*. Buscema was also behind defining the tone on early issues of *The Defenders*, *Rom* and *The New Mutants*. His career as one of Marvel's most versatile artists lasted throughout the '70s and into the '90s. In 1988, he returned to *The Spectacular*

Spider-Man and over the next ten years penciled every issue but two from #134 through #238 (and inked the vast majority as well!) Although he retired in the late '90s, readers can still see his name on comics credits from time to time, including inking work on the cult hit *Spider-Girl*.

SCOTT EDELMAN

Scott Edelman's decades-long career in sci-fi publishing and television began with a humble job as a Marvel assistant editor. In 1974, he picked up the editing reins of Marvel's fan magazine *F.O.O.M.*, and soon graduated from copy writing and fanzines to feature stories in monthly comics. His first writing credit was an adaptation of *Creature From the Black Lagoon* in *Monsters Unleashed*. He also unveiled Marvel's iteration of the classic horror character the Scarecrow in *Dead of Night*, *Marvel Spotlight* and *Marvel Two-In-One*. Regular series work followed on *Captain Marvel*, where his love of sci-fi found flourish. Other notable stories during this period were the Thanos backup story in *Logan's Run* #6, and his script for "Chaos at the Coffee Bean" in *Amazing Spider-Man Annual* #11, the first Marvel story ever drawn by John Romita Jr. Freelance work at DC followed with stories in *House of Mystery*, *Unknown Soldier* and *The Unexpected*, but by the end of the decade he had left comics for other pursuits. He published several dozen short stories in *Twilight Zone*, *Science Fiction Review and Fantasy*, and other magazines and anthologies. He has also written novels, short story anthologies, Saturday morning cartoons, and several episodes of *Tales From the Darkside*, and is currently editing the Syfy Channel's *Sci Fi Magazine* and *Science Fiction Weekly*.

ARCHIE GOODWIN

Looking for a job, Archie Goodwin was immediately sized up by publisher Jim Warren to be a meek, quiet fellow who at first glance didn't appear to have the necessary mettle to handle the chaotic life of an editor. But as Goodwin would later say of himself, behind that quiet demeanor was a furtively creative thinker that lived to "lose myself in the fantasy of comics."

As a teenager during the '50s, he was an acolyte of E.C. Comics, contributing material to fanzines like *Hoohah* and *Twig Illustrated*. Though his abiding reputation in comics would come from his writing and editorial abilities, Goodwin studied art at New York's School of Visual Arts. His first work in publishing included turns as strip artist Leonard Starr's assistant, editing for the women's magazine *Redbook* and cartooning for the outdoor magazine *Fishing World*.

His first venture into comic books came in 1964, when he joined the staff of Warren Publishing. Goodwin quickly made a name for himself both editing and writing for *Creepy* and *Eerie*, and also launched the much-revered *Blazing Combat*. He instilled a degree of class to Warren's small line that helped draw top talent, which in turn established it as a fine inheritor of E.C.'s legacy. His later work for *Vampirella* came in a brief but highly regarded stint that helped to establish a bona fide mythos for the character.

His work at Marvel began in the late '60s with short stints on *Incredible Hulk* and *Fantastic Four*, the latter job giving him the honor of being the first writer to script *FF* other than Stan Lee. But it was his work on *Iron Man* where Goodwin would make his biggest mark on the Marvel Age of Comics, writing the first 28 issues of the character's solo title.

Shortly thereafter, he began a brief writer/editor stint at DC on *Detective Comics* as well as several war titles that Joe Kubert was leaving. He also wrote a well-remembered run of *Manhunter* backup stories in collaboration with Walt Simonson, an artist he had a hand in discovering.

Heading back to Marvel, he served as editor in chief before handing the reins to Jim Shooter. His later accomplishments for Marvel included negotiating licensing for *Star Wars* and other top-selling movie adaptations and launching the Epic line. He also wrote early issues of Wolverine's solo title.

Goodwin returned to DC in 1989 to write and edit until his death from cancer in 1998, still in the prime of a career that saw him establish a legacy in every aspect of the comics field. In particular, he was regarded as a man who handled his job as an editor not simply to shepherd comics through their development process but also to mentor younger editors into fulfilling their own potential.

BILL MANTLO

From the mid-'70s through the late-'80s, Bill Mantlo established himself as one of the most dedicated writers in the comics industry, writing hundreds of stories across dozens of titles, primarily for Marvel Comics.

Mantlo broke into comics as a colorist, but it wasn't long before he was given a crack at writing a fill-in story, a "Sons of the Tiger" story in the black-and-white *Deadly Hands of Kung Fu* magazine, and his true comics talent began to emerge. The quality of his work led to his installation as that book's regular writer, a tenure that included the notable achievement of introducing comics' first Puerto Rican hero, the White Tiger.

After achieving notoriety within the Marvel offices as a guy who could knock out credible fill-in scripts at a moment's notice, Mantlo was given more regular work. One early highlight was his 20-issue tenure on *Iron Man* that began the Golden Avenger's return to prominence. As one might expect from someone with such a volume of work, Mantlo was game to take on projects others dismissed, and he did it with an unfeigned aplomb that elevated the work.

It was on two licensed titles that Mantlo built his legacy. Inspired by a toy given to his son at Christmas, Mantlo lobbied Marvel to adapt Micronauts into an ongoing series. The award-winning epic he spun with artistic luminaries like Michael Golden and Pat Broderick is still highly revered by comics fandom as is his even longer run on *Rom*, wherein he developed a universe filled with Spaceknights, Dire Wraith monsters and outer space intrigue. Other notable credits in Mantlo's career include *Incredible Hulk*, *Alpha Flight* and *Spectacular Spider-Man*.

Just as Mantlo had begun a new career as a public defender with the New York City Legal Aid Society, he was struck by a

hit-and-run driver and went into a weeks-long coma from severe head trauma. He has since been under constant medical care. The comics community has led multiple fundraisers to aid in the continuing care of a talented writer who is missed by his many fans.

DON PERLIN

A talented stalwart that put all of his creativity into his work on long-running series like *Ghost Rider* and *The Defenders*, Don Perlin plied his talents in virtually every discipline in the comic book field—penciling, inking, helping introduce new characters and sometimes editing and writing. A student of Burne Hogarth, Perlin launched his career in 1951, drawing horror comics for various publishers and also penciling Will Eisner's *The Spirit*. After serving in the Army, Perlin returned to comics with Harvey in the late '50s, as well as Charlton in the '60s. In 1973, he began his long association with Marvel finishing John Buscema's art on *Thor* and inking several titles. He took over *Werewolf By Night* from Mike Ploog, penciling and inking the book for much of the next two years. He also penciled and inked the supernatural adventures of Johnny Blaze in *Ghost Rider*, his name becoming very closely identified with Marvel's monster biker. In the '80s, he drew *The Defenders* for a long run before turning his attention to Marvel's adaptation of Hasbro's *Transformers*. His early '90s work on Valiant's *Solar, Man of the Atom* and *Bloodshot* was extremely popular, after which, Perlin went into semi-retirement.

JOHN ROMITA JR.

Like his legendary father, John Romita Jr. has become a comic-art master, establishing a powerful style uniquely his own. His life in comics began early, when as an adolescent he helped his father design the Spider-Man villain the Prowler. His first published work—cover art for Marvel UK and "Chaos at the Coffee Bean!" in *Amazing Spider-Man Annual* #11—showed that he'd learned much from his father's figure drawing and storytelling sense. His first full-length project was a KISS feature in *Marvel Super-Special* #5. In the summer of 1978, he began a years long parternship on *Iron Man* with David Michelinie and Bob Layton. It was during his first *Iron Man* break that Romita Jr. took on full-time art duties on *Amazing Spider-Man* for the first of multiple acclaimed runs. During his Spidey tenure he also helped launch *Dazzler* and penciled the first Marvel miniseries, *Marvel Super Hero Contest of Champions*. In 1983, Romita Jr. joined Chris Claremont's *Uncanny X-Men*, taking over the industry's most popular comic for a three-year run that saw his art dramatically evolve in tone. After a stint on the New Universe series *Starbrand*, he rebounded with a pair of *Amazing Spider-Man* issues that included Peter Parker's proposal to Mary Jane Watson. Next, Romita Jr. began a run on *Daredevil* with writer Ann Nocenti, introducing Typhoid Mary and establishing himself as one of the definitive *Daredevil* artists. After a third run on *Iron Man*, his credits included *Punisher War Zone*, *Daredevil: The Man Without Fear* with Frank Miller, a return to *Uncanny X-Men*, and long runs on *Spider-Man*, *Thor* and *Peter Parker: Spider-Man*. As the new century dawned, the ever more popular Romita Jr. kept adding to his superstar resume with stints on *Amazing Spider-Man* with J. Michael Straczynski, *Wolverine* with Mark Millar, *Eternals* with Neil Gaiman, and the *World War Hulk* event. His collaboration with Millar spawned their creator-owned series *Kick-Ass*, which led to a blockbuster feature film. In recent years, he has returned once more to *Amazing Spider-Man*, helped relaunch *Avengers* with Brian Michael Bendis and *Captain America* with Rick Remender, and contributed to the blockbuster crossover *Avengers vs. X-Men*.

MARV WOLFMAN

Marv Wolfman's stints writing for movies, television, animation and novels mark him as a varied and highly regarded talent, but it is his comic book writing where he first gained prestige as one of the industry's most acclaimed talents.

His first forays into the comic industry were short tenures as editor and writer for both Warren Publishing and DC Comics, but it was after a move to Marvel in 1972 that his career began to blossom. One of his earliest hits was *Tomb of Dracula*, Marvel's adaptation of the classic Bram Stoker vampire. It was in the pages of *Tomb of Dracula* that Wolfman and Gene Colan unveiled the character Blade, the vampire hunter. This earthly hero was one of the earliest black heroes in comics and was introduced to further affirm the realism he sought to inject into the Dracula comic.

After editing Marvel's black-and-white magazines, he quickly stepped up the ladder to follow Len Wein as editor in chief. Wolfman had noted that the readership, who like himself had become loyal fans in their adolescence, felt it was important to have the stories Marvel produced "grow up" along with them. His editorial duties, however, stole time from his writing, so in 1976 he stepped down and took on writing full-time.

As writer of *Daredevil*, his two-year run preceded the Frank Miller era and included the introduction of Bullseye, now the most innovative and fearsome of Daredevil's rogues' gallery. Other work from his prolific Marvel tenure in the late '70s included lengthy runs on Marvel's two flagship titles: *The Amazing Spider-Man* (including the debut of the Black Cat) and *Fantastic Four* as well runs on *Nova*, *Doctor Strange* and *Thor*.

Moving to DC, he teamed with artist George Pérez and ushered in *New Teen Titans*. Most of the Titans came to life under his auspices, including Cyborg, Nightwing, Starfire, and Raven, as well as their nemesis Deathstroke. Next, Wolfman and Pérez delivered the epochal *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, condensing DC's complex 50 year history into a single, shared universe.

Taking a lengthy sabbatical from writing comics, Wolfman moved to writing for animation shows including *G.I. Joe* and *Transformers*, later becoming comics editor for *Disney Adventures Magazine*. He continues to write for DC Comics and more recently, has penned the nonfiction *Homeland, the Illustrated History of the State of Israel*. In 2011 Marv was inducted into the Eisner Hall of Fame.

Biographies researched and written by John Rhett Thomas

THE MARVEL MASTERWORKS LIBRARY

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN VOLS. 1-17
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MS. MARVEL VOL. 1
NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. VOLS. 1-3
RAWHIDE KID VOLS. 1-2
SGT. FURY VOLS. 1-4
THE SILVER SURFER VOLS. 1-2

THE MARVEL AGE

It was August 1961 and change was hitting the newsstands. *Fantastic Four* #1 did not feature the squeaky-clean heroes of yesteryear. These were real characters placed in extraordinary circumstances. They lived together, they fought among themselves—and sometimes, they even lost to the bad guys. This was more than a change in attitude: It was the beginning of something entirely different—the Marvel Age of Comics!

Thanks to the fertile imaginations of Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko and others, an unending list of heroes followed the FF with ever-increasing acclaim and popularity: the Amazing Spider-Man, the Mighty Thor, the Incredible Hulk, Daredevil, Iron Man and the X-Men, to name but a few. These were the Marvel heroes, born of conflict and a continuous struggle to balance human lives with superhuman responsibilities.

The *Marvel Masterworks* series was created to give comic-book readers everywhere the chance to experience the greatest comics the world has known as they were originally presented.

SPIDER-WOMAN VOL. 1
THE SUB-MARINER VOLS. 1-6
THE MIGHTY THOR VOLS. 1-14
WARLOCK VOLS. 1-2
THE X-MEN VOLS. 1-8
THE UNCANNY X-MEN VOLS. 1-9

THE GOLDEN AGE

As the Great Depression wore on and the specter of war hung over the heads of all Americans, a new entertaining escape from the newspapers' horrifying realities was born: the comic book. Within their four-color pages, larger-than-life super heroes could make short work of America's foes, giving readers of all ages hope for victory against the real-life enemies that faced the United States.

At the forefront of this new medium was Timely Comics, a young company staffed by such legendary talents as Carl Burgos, Bill Everett, Joe Simon, Jack Kirby and Stan Lee. These skilled writers and artists created a vast array of characters that would give rise to the Marvel Universe!

GOLDEN AGE ALL-WINNERS VOLS. 1-4
GOLDEN AGE CAPTAIN AMERICA VOLS. 1-6
GOLDEN AGE DARING MYSTERY VOLS. 1-2
GOLDEN AGE HUMAN TORCH VOLS. 1-3
GOLDEN AGE MARVEL COMICS VOLS. 1-7
GOLDEN AGE MYSTIC COMICS VOL. 1
GOLDEN AGE SUB-MARINER VOLS. 1-3
GOLDEN AGE U.S.A. COMICS VOLS. 1-2
GOLDEN AGE YOUNG ALLIES VOLS. 1-2

THE ATLAS ERA

Seeing super heroes waning, Timely Comics evolved into Atlas Comics and took on a vast new range of genres: science-fiction tales of outer space adventures and unimaginable monsters; realistic war comics; buxom jungle heroines; horror comics that would become the center of a moral panic that rocked the industry; and romance comics for the emerging teen audience. Even the classic costumed heroes of the '40s retooled to take on the threat of Communism. From Western gunfighters to crime to horror, Atlas had it all!

ATLAS ERA BATTLEFIELD VOL. 1
ATLAS ERA BLACK KNIGHT/YELLOW CLAW VOL. 1
ATLAS ERA HEROES VOLS. 1-3
ATLAS ERA JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY VOLS. 1-4
ATLAS ERA JUNGLE ADVENTURE VOLS. 1-3
ATLAS ERA MENACE VOL. 1
ATLAS ERA STRANGE TALES VOLS. 1-6
ATLAS ERA TALES TO ASTONISH VOLS. 1-4
ATLAS ERA TALES OF SUSPENSE VOLS. 1-4
ATLAS ERA VENUS VOL. 1

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
PETER PARKER, I KNOW YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN—
—AND I HAVE THE PHOTOS TO PROVE IT!
NOW DO THESE PICTURES REVEAL WHO'S SECRET IDENTITY? WHO'LL NEVER KNOW, UNLESS YOU READ...
CONFRONTATION!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
ANY VAGUEST REMARKS—COMING FROM THE VERY WALLS AT ME!
I AM I GOING MAD?
INDEED YOU ARE, MY BOY—AND ONLY DOCTOR MINISTER CAN SAVE YOU!!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH
NOVA
WITH MY TWO GREATEST FOES SLAIN—
...NOTHING CAN STOP PHOTON!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
BOMBAS FEELS HE'S INVISIBLE—SO HE'LL CHANGE INTO THE ROCKET-MAN!
A FACE IT, WEB-HEAD—I'M INVISIBLE! CHANGE INTO THE ROCKET-MAN!
THE FIEND FROM THE FIRE!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
YELP ME—BEFORE THE FIRE KILLS US ALL!!
WOUNDED—IN BLINDING PAIN—THE WEB-SLINGER MUSTER'S HIS MOST DESPERATE BATTLE—TO SAVE THE LIFE OF LIZ ALLEN!!
THE MOLTEN MAN'S LAST STAND!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
HANG ON TO PUNISHER, WEB-SLINGER! THE PUNISHER WILL SAVE YOU BOTH!
BUT WHO'S GOING TO SAVE YOU HERO—FROM THE VENGEANCE OF THE HITMAN!
AND WITH MY INJURED ARM, I CAN'T SAVE ANY OF US!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
STAND ASIDE, SPIDER-MAN! THE GREEN GOBLIN HAS RETURNED!
HOW DOES HE STOP—HAVE IT?
FORGET THE GOBLIN! NOW ONE WE CAN'T HIM!!!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
MARY JANE IS DYING—AND ONLY PETER PARKER CAN SAVE HER!
BUT WHERE IS HE?!
IN THE GRIP OF THE GREEN GOBLIN!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
YOU'VE MAD IT, WEB-SLINGER! YOU CAN NEVER BEAT BOTH OF US!
THE GOBLIN'S RIGHT! BETWEEN HIM AND SILVERMANE—I'M HELPLESS!
THEATER OF FURY!

MARVEL